

**SPORTS REVIEW**

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47817 July 1986

# Wrestling

**SUPER ACTION-PACKED ISSUE**

*The Bare Facts Behind . . .*

## **PAUL ORNDORFF'S HUMILIATION OF RODDY PIPER!**



**Special Section:  
HALFTIME—  
THE GREATEST MATCHES  
OF THE '80s!**

*Sheer Violence In The UWF:  
THE SHEEPHERDERS MAKE  
TAG TEAM WRESTLING  
WILD AND WOOLLY!*

**SPORTS REVIEW  
INTERVIEW:  
NICK BOCKWINKEL**

**TULLY  
BLANCHARD:  
“MAGNUM T.A.  
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## MACHO MEN HAVE MORE FUN

Women are not excited by men who are skeletons. They like men of form and substance. They like men who look good in their clothes and out. They like men who look like men. If you are one of those who knows this and have been trying in vain to do something about it, this is your lucky day. Your search is ended. Your body is about to embark on a trip to its ideal shape and form. *ShapeUp* is here to shape you up . . . and we mean it sincerely. You are about to gain weight . . . and not just flap, but the right amount in the right places. You'll see!

## SKINNY ISN'T ATTRACTIVE

If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthful. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

## GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

## GAIN WEIGHT! GAIN WOMEN!

*If you think that's just a catchy slogan, we hope you will do yourself a favor. Count how many skinny men you see in movies, or on TV or anywhere . . . with pretty women. Notice whom they pick for clothing models. See the announcers, the M.C.'s, the newsmen. How many men in the public eye, in politics, in leadership roles in business are underweight? Not even astronauts are skinny guys. If you want to experience a change in your attitude, your business progress, your lifestyle, see what 5, 10, 15 pounds can do for you. See how it adds to your personal esteem, your confidence and, best of all, your well-being. Your day will come . . . and thank your lucky stars, it's within sight with *ShapeUp* working for you.*

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**SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING** is published monthly by G.C. London Publishing Corp., Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Single copy price: \$1.75. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

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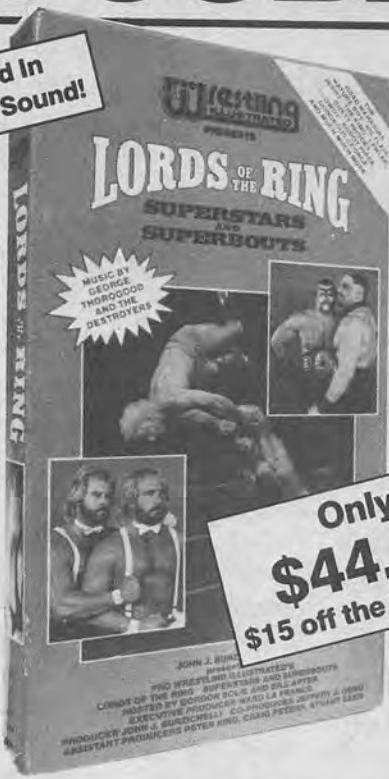
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### LEGION OF DOOM DISEASE

The Road Warriors are the best tag team in professional wrestling today. Period. Every time Hawk and Animal step into the ring they make it a point not only to win, but to annihilate their opponents. They don't wait for introductions, they ignore the national anthem, and they disregard the cheering fans.

They will defeat the Russians, of this I am quite certain. Without their chains, the Koloffs and Khrushchev are nothing but sissies. The Warriors will show no mercy in turning back those evildoers. The question is what will the Warriors do after they have no challengers left?

JOSEPH SEYMOUR  
Philadelphia

### HE SHALL RETURN

The story in the April 1986 issue of *Sports Review Wrestling* ("Quitter! The Label That Haunts Rick Martel") was manufactured garbage. Anyone



Rick Martel is not a quitter, writes John Read, in response to a story in *Sports Review Wrestling*. John is confident that Rick, bodyslamming Stan Hansen, will regain the AWA title.

who has followed the career of Rick Martel knows the last thing the proud Canadian is a quitter. Martel's spirit has been a constant source of inspiration to his fans and friends.

No one is perfect. Martel's back in-

juries have been well-documented. That is why Hansen was able to defeat him that night in New Jersey. Had Martel not submitted, he would have spent the rest of his life in a wheelchair. Now, five months later, it is a healthy and vigorous Rick Martel who appears in the ring. He promised us he would regain his AWA title and we believe he will. I know that Martel will keep his promise and regain what is rightfully his.

JOHN READ  
Houston

### THEY'D BE SHORT STORIES

How come the midgets don't get more play in the magazines? They're people, too, y'know. Grapplers like Farmer Jones, Little Pete, and Little Mr. T have trained long and hard and deserve recognition for their skills. You desk-weary editors wouldn't be too anxious to mix it up in the ring with these muscled Lilliputians. Pound for pound they are among the strongest, most ferocious, and agile athletes competing in any sport.

Your policy of ignoring the midgets and women smacks of the grossest form of discrimination. I expect more from your fine family of magazines. Having been married to a lovely, caring woman of diminutive size for over 25 years, I have had to endure every ugly insult imaginable. Although my Sheila is but 3'4", she possesses qualities that women twice her size will never have. Give the midgets an even break. How about some stories?

WILTON RUSSELL  
Lawrence, KS

### NOT RANDY ENOUGH

The problem between Randy Savage and Miss Elizabeth is simple: Savage either ignores or mistreats Elizabeth. The only time he spends with her is when he yells and chastises her for taking flowers from George Steele. How secure is their relationship if Savage goes berserk jealous over a fruitcake like Steele? I predict a stormy future for those two, with Elizabeth eventually dumping the "Macho Man" for a real man like Hulk Hogan or Tito Santana. Furthermore, Savage should

(Continued on page 47)

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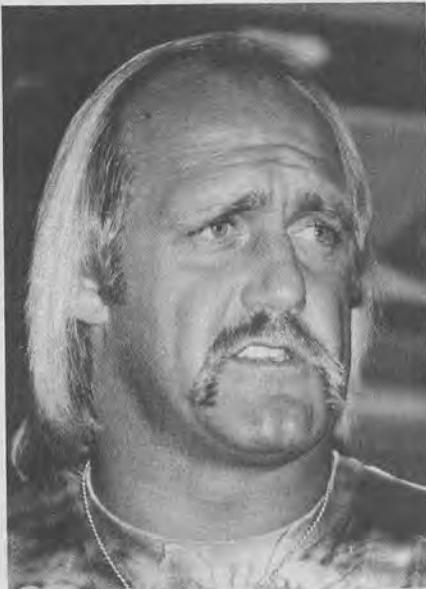
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# THE TATTER

**L**OS ANGELES, CA: The main event of WrestleMania 2 was a steel cage match between Hulk Hogan and King Kong Bundy. Hogan, his ribs taped as the result of Bundy's attack from behind nearly a month earlier, entered the ring over the top of the cage to the deafening roar of the fans in the L.A. Sports Arena. Hogan left with the victory 10:12 later when he went over the cage and dropped to the arena floor, seconds before Bundy crawled out the door in desperation.

Hogan opened up a cut on Bundy's head early in the match, but the challenger came right back, choking Hogan with his own bandages. Bundy then tried to leave the



**HULK HOGAN**



**KING KONG BUNDY**

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cage, but Hogan was able to prevent the quick victory. Bundy continued to punish Hogan, and on a few occasions nearly got through the door.

With almost nine minutes gone in the match and Bundy unable to put away Hogan, the match quickly turned around. Hogan got fired up, reversed a Bundy whip, and body-slammed the challenger. Hogan then put Bundy away with a legdrop and went for the cage.

Hogan was exhausted, however, and appeared to have trouble getting over the top. Bundy was able to restrain Hogan on his first attempt, but seconds later, Hogan went over the cage to retain the WWF belt.

Hogan then went after manager  
*(Continued on page 52)*

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# The Inquiring Reporter

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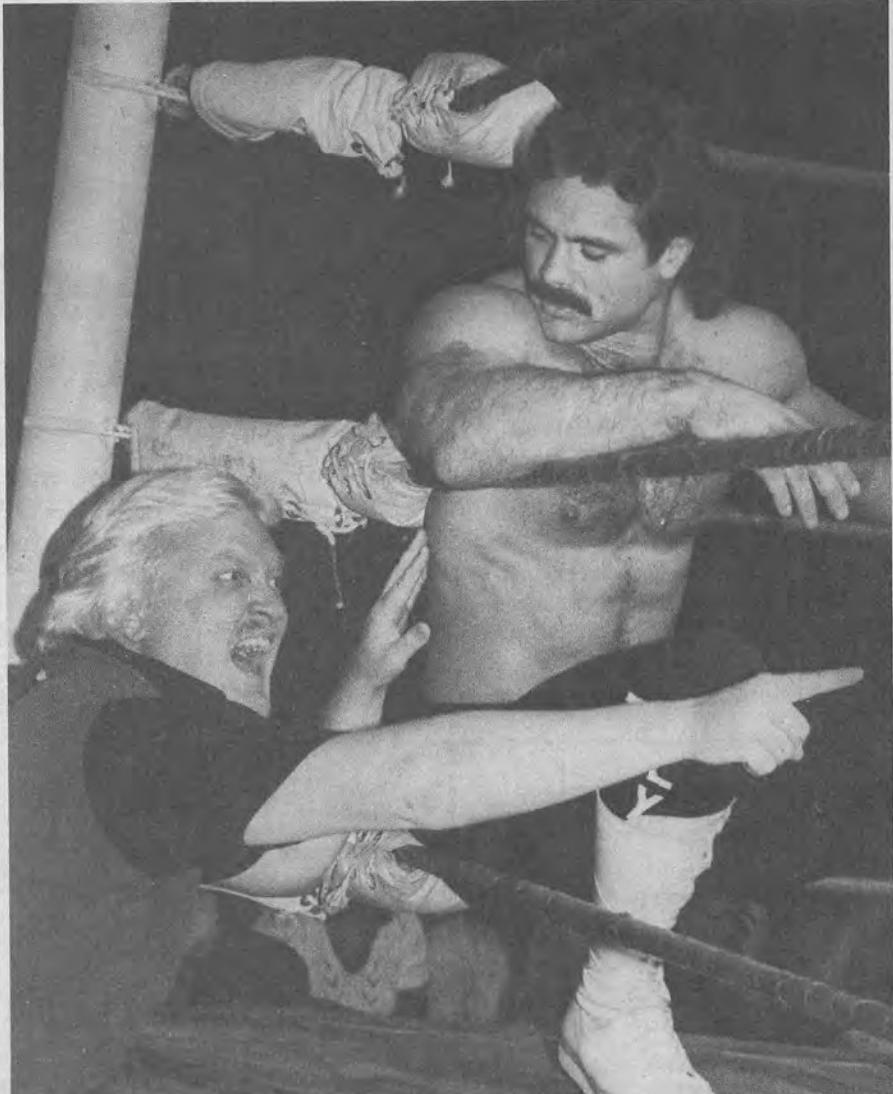
**THE QUESTION:** "Do you agree with the World Class' decision to withdraw from the NWA?"

**THE ANSWERS:**

*Brad Thomas, South Bend, IN:* "Absolutely. It's about time someone did something about the NWA's outdated rules. Who cares if the title changes hands every time the champion gets disqualified? It's idiotic! If a wrestler is disqualified, he deserves to lose his title. Ric Flair has had the NWA title for much of the last five years and he should have had it for only five days. The guy's not a wrestler. He's a scheming cheater, a threat to the respect wrestling commands all over the world. World Class will make the NWA look stupid."

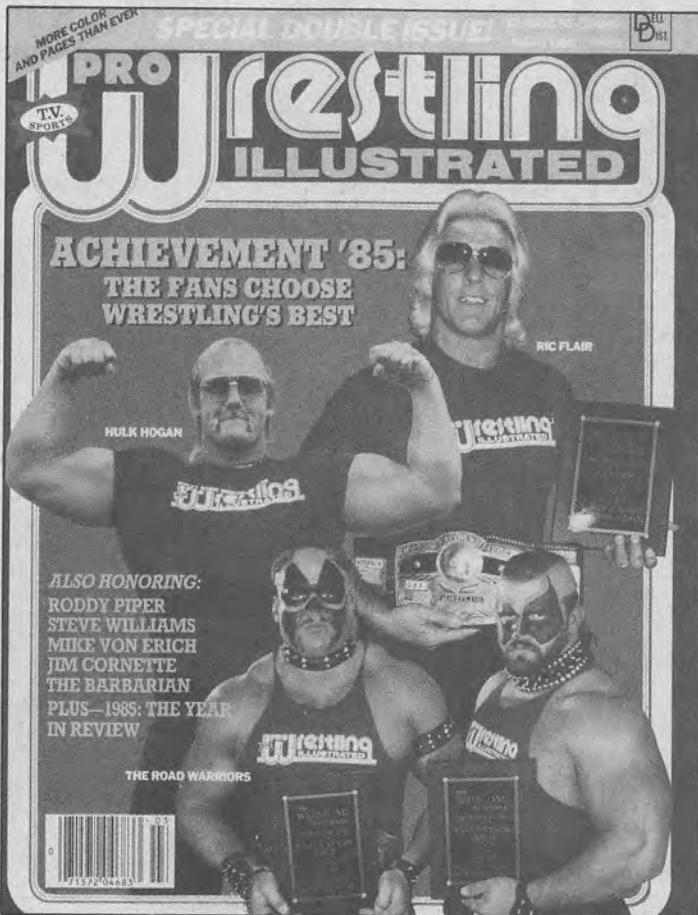
*John O'Donnell, Raleigh, NC:* "I'll tell ya, I've been giving this a lot of thought, and it really bothers me. Think I'll just go out and beat up some cowboys. It's typical of those dirty Texans. They always have to be different, but they can't do nothing right. We should give them back to the Mexicans. The Alamo was a disgrace and that Kennedy thing could have only happened in Texas, but this is going too far. The NWA is the oldest league in wrestling and World Class

(Continued on page 56)



Percy Pringle will have to work out legal strategies by which Rick Rude can defend his title. As World Class champion, Rude cannot use disqualifications as a means to retain his title.

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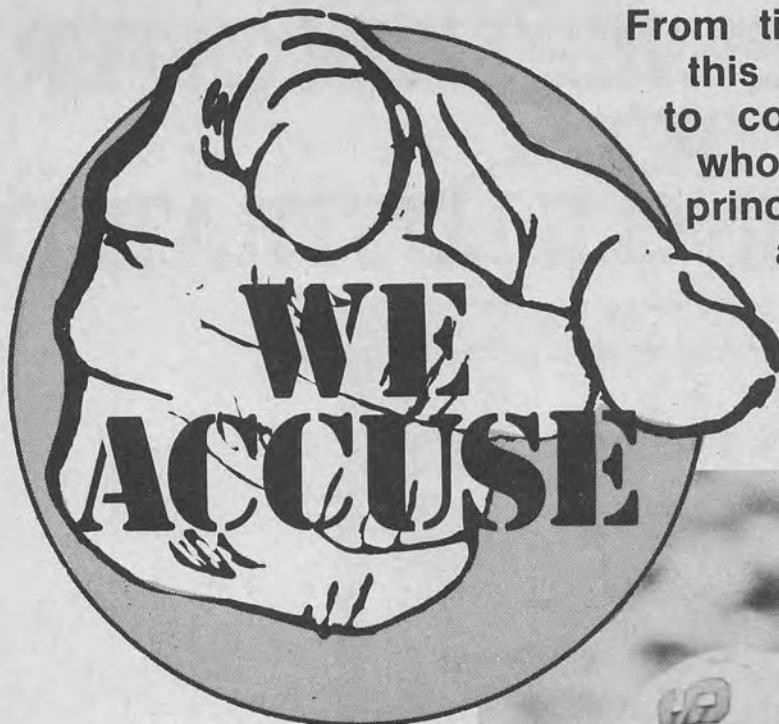
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From time to time, the editors of this magazine find it necessary to condemn those in wrestling who would subvert the basic principles of decency, integrity, and honesty. Without such truths, our sport will die

THE AIR WAS constipated with talk. Big hulking professionals sounding like nine-year-old schoolyard braggarts.

"I'm not scared of any wrestler. They can't do nothing to me."

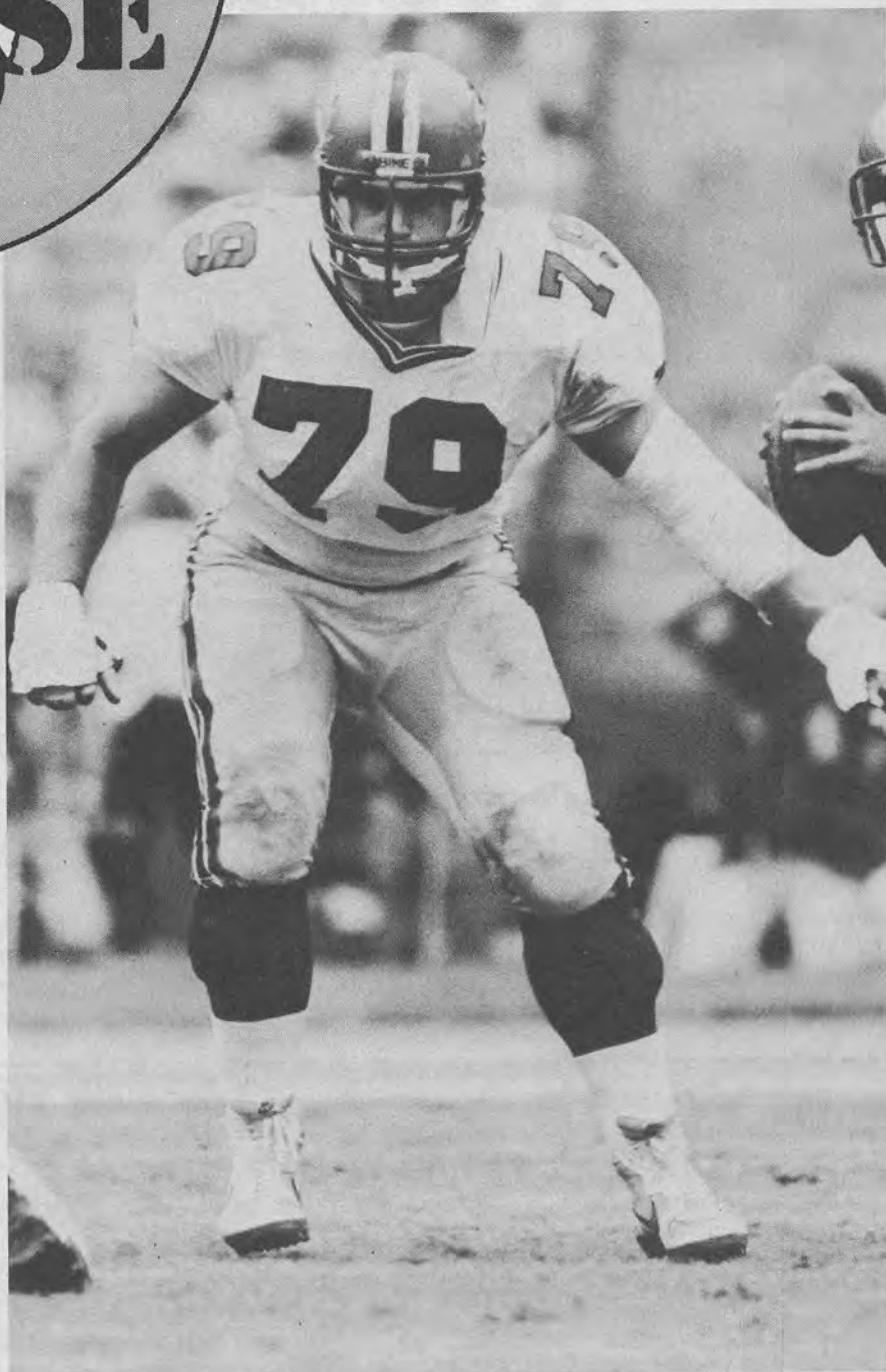
"Pro wrestlers? Ha! I've gone nose to nose with Howie Long, man. *Howie Long*. Don't tell me who's tough and who's tough."

"I'm going to walk into that ring and treat it like a day in the park. I'm only worried that the 'Fridge might blindside me."

Words that Jim Covert, Ernie Holmes, Harvey Martin, Russ Francis, and Bill Fralic undoubtedly wish they could retrieve and erase. After the debacle in Chicago last month you can bet the football fraternity will approach any future forays into the squared circle with a little less talk and a lot more reverence.

*Sports Review Wrestling* accuses those football players who participated in the WrestleMania 2 battle royal—specifically Covert, Martin, and Fralic—of sheer stupidity for their shoddy preparation and prematch blabbering. The blatant contempt they displayed for the sport of wrestling diminished the respect they themselves

(Continued on page 58)



Aided by pounds of equipment and 10 teammates, Atlanta Falcons offensive tackle Bill Fralic is one of the most feared men in football. Put him in a wrestling ring, however, and, as proven in the WrestleMania 2 battle royal, he won't last very long.

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# TOP WRESTLE YOUR QUESTION

Do you have a question you want answered by 10 of wrestling's top stars? Each month, *Sports Review*

*Wrestling* will publish a fan's "Question of the Month," which will be answered by the sport's top superstars. If you have a question you would like to see answered,

send it to:

**ASK THE STARS**  
*Sports Review Wrestling*  
Box 48  
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

## THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

**"If you hadn't become involved in wrestling, what would you be doing?"**

**Submitted by:  
Kitty Cinquini,  
Whittier, CA**



**EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET**

"I always thought the most romantic thing in the world would be to have a nine-to-five job. Gossip around the water cooler. Time out to scrape mascara and gloss lips. The swarm of humanity at rush hour. Hot, stale breath exchanged between strap-hangers. Over the shoulder newspaper readings. Covert glances at beautiful people. When I retire, I'm going to get myself a real nine-to-five job."



**GREG GAGNE**

"I'd be selling insurance. There's something very gratifying about supplying people with coverage that will protect their homes and lives and personal possessions. In many ways, the insurance game is far more exciting than the sport of wrestling. Ever see a town after a tornado hits it? Brother, let me tell you, it's something else. My job would be putting the pieces back together again. Quite a switch from my ring duties, where I cause the destruction."



**RICK MARTEL**

"I'd have tried my hand at ice hockey. I had two heroes growing up in Quebec—Edouard Carpentier and Rocket Richard. I always dreamed of skating around the Montreal Forum with the Stanley Cup held high over my head. I played junior hockey for several years, but after my first taste of the ring, I knew there was no turning back. Sometimes I kid around by saying that there is less violence in a brutal wrestling match than there is in a normal hockey game."



**RIC FLAIR**

"I would be a doctor. In fact, I still might. I've been checking into medical schools around the country and learned that a good percentage of MDs don't get started till they reach 35. It'd be a simple transition—ring surgeon to brain surgeon. Whoa! What a perfect transition that would be. After spending half my life tearing people apart, I could spend the next half putting 'em back together. Dr. Ric Flair. Ya gotta love it."

# WRESTLERS ANSWER OF THE MONTH



## RICK MORTON

"I'd be fronting my own band, playing rhythm guitar. I gave up the six string in high school and had to terminate my band 'The Cosmic Avengers.' We were hot, but I knew even then my future was in wrestling. And it seemed easier to be a rock 'n' roller in the ring than a brawler on stage. Oh, I still play the guitar—the air guitar—in hotel rooms with the curtains drawn. Who knows though? With a little practice, maybe some day I'll get back on stage."



## STAN HANSEN

"It would be a damn hard life. I'd be working 20-hour days to support my kids and Emma Lou, and I'd come home meaner than a spayed cat in heat. Beating people up is the easiest way I know to pocket five grand a night. It sure beats working the 3,500 acres of soybean fields and 275 head of Texas bovine that I got. Let the hired folk do that. My time is too precious to pick beans."



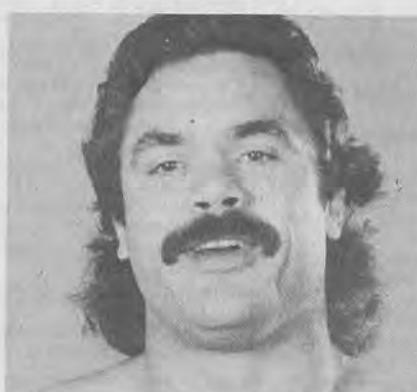
## MISSY HYATT

"When I was a little girl I dreamed of becoming a ballet dancer. I *loved* those cute little tutus. And I loved ballet class. Unfortunately, my chest had other plans, so I became a go-go dancer. I used to dance in one of those cute little cages hoisted above stage. It was real safe—not like being in the ring—no one could grab you. But I don't miss those days. I belong in center stage. I *love* being the center of attention."



## JIM CORNETTE

"Oh, don't ask me that question. Life would be so dull without this little hobby of mine. Living off a trust fund is not what it's cracked up to be. On Thursdays, Mother insisted on counting our money. Out would come the bankbooks, the stock portfolios, the real estate holdings, and the cash. Mother always kept a couple of hundred thousand in cash lying around the house in case of emergencies. Wrestling got me out of the house. Too bad success has come so easily."



## RICK RUDE

"Hell, I'd probably be on the sofa of some rich dame's living room spitting prune pits on the floor. So many women beg to support me, I could leave the ring any time I want. But it ain't ravishing to be kept. I'll make my own millions and get out of this racket before my fabulous face attracts any scars. I understand Kerry Von Erich is so jealous of the women I've stolen from him, he's purchased chemical lye to throw in my face. Tell him nothing could make me as ugly as he is."



## KEVIN VON ERICH

"Oh, no doubt I'd be a teacher. It gives me a special feeling to work with young people. We're both the richer for the experience. I discovered that I can reach more people in the ring, though. There aren't enough positive role models in professional sports these days and—without sounding pompous—I feel that my brothers and I fulfill that function as well as anyone."

# BACK ISSUES OF



Be sure to fill in the gaps in your collection of INSIDE WRESTLING, "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts—order today!

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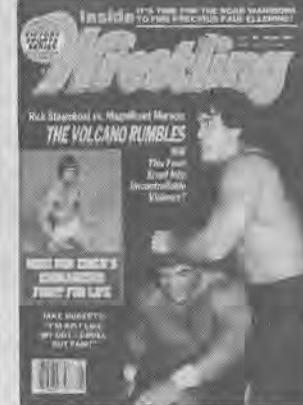
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**September 1980**/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.



JANUARY 1986

**November 1980**/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

**January 1981**/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

**February 1981**/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

**April 1981**/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

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**October 1984**/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

**November 1984**/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

**December 1984**/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

**January 1985**/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

**February 1985**/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

**March 1985**/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

**April 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

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**February 1979**/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.



## DECEMBER 1985

**May 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

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**November 1980**/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

**January 1981**/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

**February 1981**/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

**March 1981**/Stories include: Rich, Sammons, Blassie, Wrestling II.

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**August 1981**/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

**October 1981**/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

**December 1981**/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

**January 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

**March 1982**/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

**April 1982**/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

**May 1982**/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

**June 1982**/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

**July 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

**August 1982**/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

**September 1982**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

**October 1982**/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

**November 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

**December 1982**/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

**January 1983**/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

**February 1983**/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

**March 1983**/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.

**April 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

**May 1983**/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

**June 1983**/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

**July 1983**/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

**August 1983**/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

**September 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

**October 1983**/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

**November 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

**December 1983**/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

**January 1984**/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

**March 1984**/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

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**September 1984**/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

**October 1984**/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

**November 1984**/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

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**April 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

**May 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.

**June 1985**/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.

**July 1985**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

**August 1985**/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

**September 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

**October 1985**/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.

**November 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

**December 1985**/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

**January 1986**/Stories include: 20th Anniversary, 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino

**February 1986**/Stories include: Hogan, Orndorff, Flair, Hansen

**March 1986**/Stories include: Lance Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen vs. Martel

**April 1986**/Stories include: Kevin Von Erich, Rude, Lex Lugar, Hogan, Magnum TA.

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# WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

## BRITISH BULLDOGS

AH, PEACE. FOR the first time in several months there was complete accord among the editorial staff in the selection of our Wrestler, or in this case Wrestlers, of the Month. Congratulations are in order to the intrepid British grapplers, those cockney canines of science, the British Bulldogs. Davey Boy Smith and The Dynamite Kid stole the show at WrestleMania 2, as well as the WWF tag team titles, as they dominated the duo of Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake.

Judging from their peerless display in Chicago, it appears the sun may never set on the Bulldogs' empire. Valentine and Beefcake had appeared invincible as of late, their eight-month title reign a testament to a deft combination of brutality and technique. Yet, against the Bulldogs at WrestleMania 2, the WWF champs could not muster a single sustained offensive. Lou Albano's strategy called for the Bulldogs to key on one wrestler, and through a series of rapid tags, tire him out. Rarely has the playbook been so well executed.

Smith and The Kid's containment of Valentine kept "The Hammer" in the ring for well over three-quarters of the match, reducing the veteran to a state of fatigued, leg-weary incoherence. Albano had said beforehand that it would require a perfect blend of offense and defense to win the belts.

"We can't allow the match to degenerate into a brawl," the Captain said. "We don't want a disqualification—we want the belts. Beefcake and Valentine are smart, too smart. They'll bail out if they smell trouble. We must get in there for the pin. Aggressive defense. The Bulldogs are tireless. They have the greatest conditioning program I have ever seen. If we tire them out, we will win. I guarantee it."

"I want number 16. This one will be special. I lost the tag team belts on the last WrestleMania card [when Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik defeated Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo]. This time I want to go out a winner."

Albano was, of course, referring to the unprecedented number of tag team titles to which he has led his teams throughout his storied career. The Bulldogs, tag team champions number 16, may be Albano's crowning achievement.

Long known for their scientific prowess and explosive potential, Davey Boy Smith and Dynamite Kid labored in relative obscurity for months after they arrived in the WWF early last year. While their style thrilled, and often amazed, fans and opponents alike, they were not considered serious title threats until after Beefcake and Valentine captured the WWF championship and Windham and Ro-

tundo had left the area. Although many experts assumed that they couldn't help but win the title, the Bulldogs inexplicably suffered losses to teams with half their skills (The Hart Foundation) and failed in several attempts against the champions.

The problem was one of style and strategy. The Bulldogs couldn't counter the growing number of rule-breaking tandems in the area. Schooled in the traditional wrestling classics, Smith and The Kid were at a loss at how to handle teams who flouted the rules. Exposed to double-teams, foreign objects, and an officiating crew too often willing to indulge the rulebreakers, the Bulldogs had packed their bags in frustration, and decided to return to the British shores when they met Albano.

Albano, too, had been puzzled by the Bulldogs' lack of success. After sampling hours of match films, he thought he had arrived at the solution. "They were too reluctant to mix it up, to roughhouse," Albano explained. "Science will only take you so far in this sport. To succeed you must be willing to get your hands a little dirty."

The advice worked. Albano can also be credited with speeding up the Bulldogs' tags. "They weren't taking proper advantage of their speed," said the man many have called wrestling's sharpest mind. "Once they picked up the pace you saw what can happen."

Indeed we have. In the weeks preceding WrestleMania 2, the Bulldogs tagged an average of 35 times a match. In the title bout, it was their tagging on the fly, their blinding interaction that confused Valentine and Beefcake, although the Bulldogs characteristically credit science with the win.

"Those suplexes did have something to do with it," Albano admitted, smiling. "I wish they had done one off the top rope."

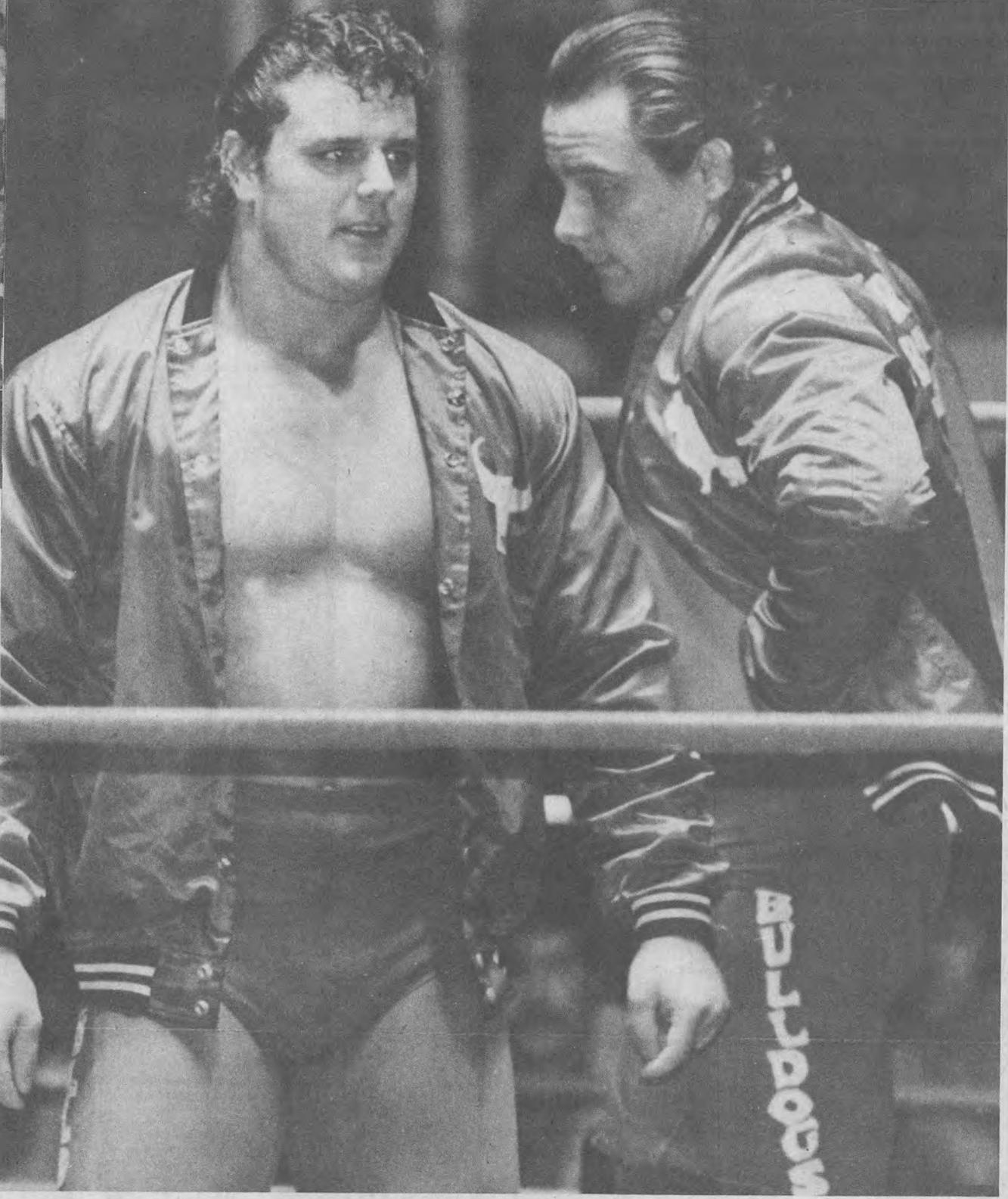
The Bulldogs' dazzling scientific display was clearly the best match of WrestleMania 2. Valentine was the recipient of a series of suplexes of all types and velocities, and was helpless at the end when he and the Dynamite Kid collided heads. Davey Boy Smith fell on Valentine for the pin. Beefcake, attempting to interfere was tripped up by the ropes (or was it an act of God?), and could not save his teammate.

Their boyish enthusiasm and pyrotechnic mat displays have made the Bulldogs the new darlings of the fans. Their popularity in the WWF may be only surpassed by Hulk Hogan himself.

This month *Sports Review Wrestling* is proud to bestow the honor of Wrestler of the Month upon the British Bulldogs. We suspect it will be the first of many, many accolades. □

**JULY 1986**

The British Bulldogs—Davey Boy Smith and Dynamite Kid—have accomplished what everyone has expected of them in winning the WWF tag team title.



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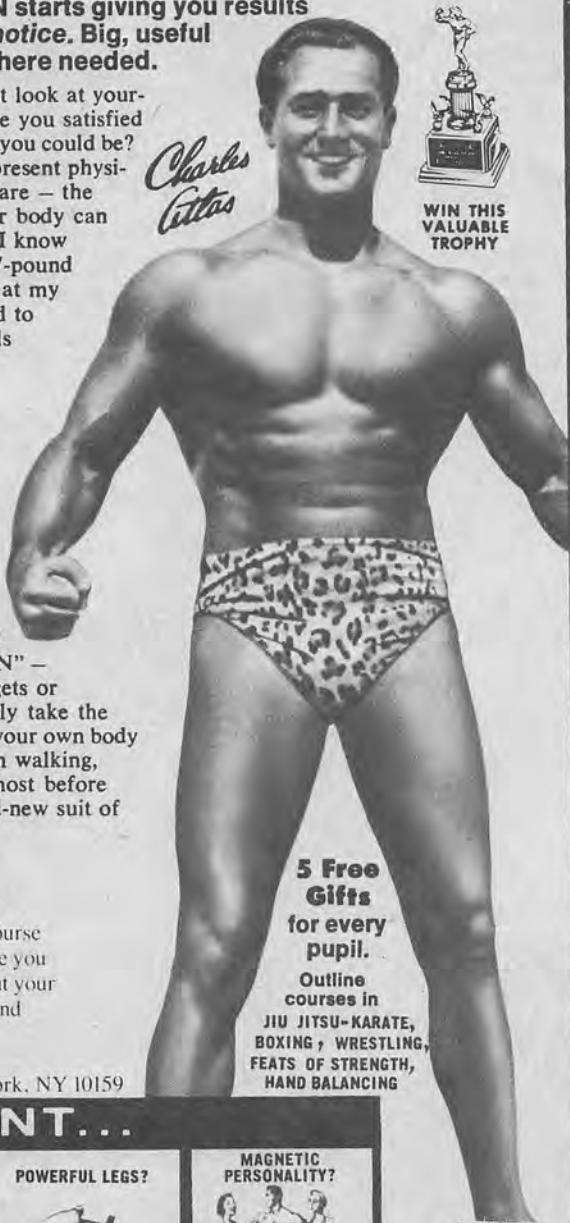
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April 1982/Cover stories: Spoiler, Idol-Hayes. PLUS: Morales, Super D, Ladd.

May 1982/Cover story: Rich-Flair. PLUS: Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.

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July 1982/Cover stories: Steamboat-Idol, Albano. PLUS: Rhodes, Patera.

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December 1982/Cover stories: Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair. PLUS: Albano, Humperdinck.

January 1983/Cover stories: Rich, McDaniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.

March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass, Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat.

April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Graham, Briscoes. PLUS: Rhodes, Hogan.

May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS: Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco.

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October 1983/Cover stories: Martel-Valentine, Mulligan. PLUS: Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.

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December 1983/Cover story: Windham-LeDuc. PLUS: Santana, Sullivan, Garvin, masked wrestlers.

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March 1984/Cover story: Starrcade '83 featuring Flair, Steamboat & Youngblood, Piper-Valentine. PLUS: Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.



DECEMBER 1985

April 1984/Cover stories: Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki. PLUS: Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/Cover stories: LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins. PLUS: The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!

June 1984/Cover stories: Windham-Flair, Gilbert. PLUS: Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.

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December 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Gilbert, Martel. PLUS: Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class action weekend.

January 1985/Cover stories: Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund. PLUS: Fabulous Ones, Pro Wrestling USA.

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August 1985/Cover stories: Flair vs. Nikita. PLUS: Orndorff, Slaughter, Haynes, Parade of Champions II.

September 1985/Cover stories: Adams vs. Von Erich, Orndorff. PLUS: Sawyer, Kamala, Barr, Atlanta action.

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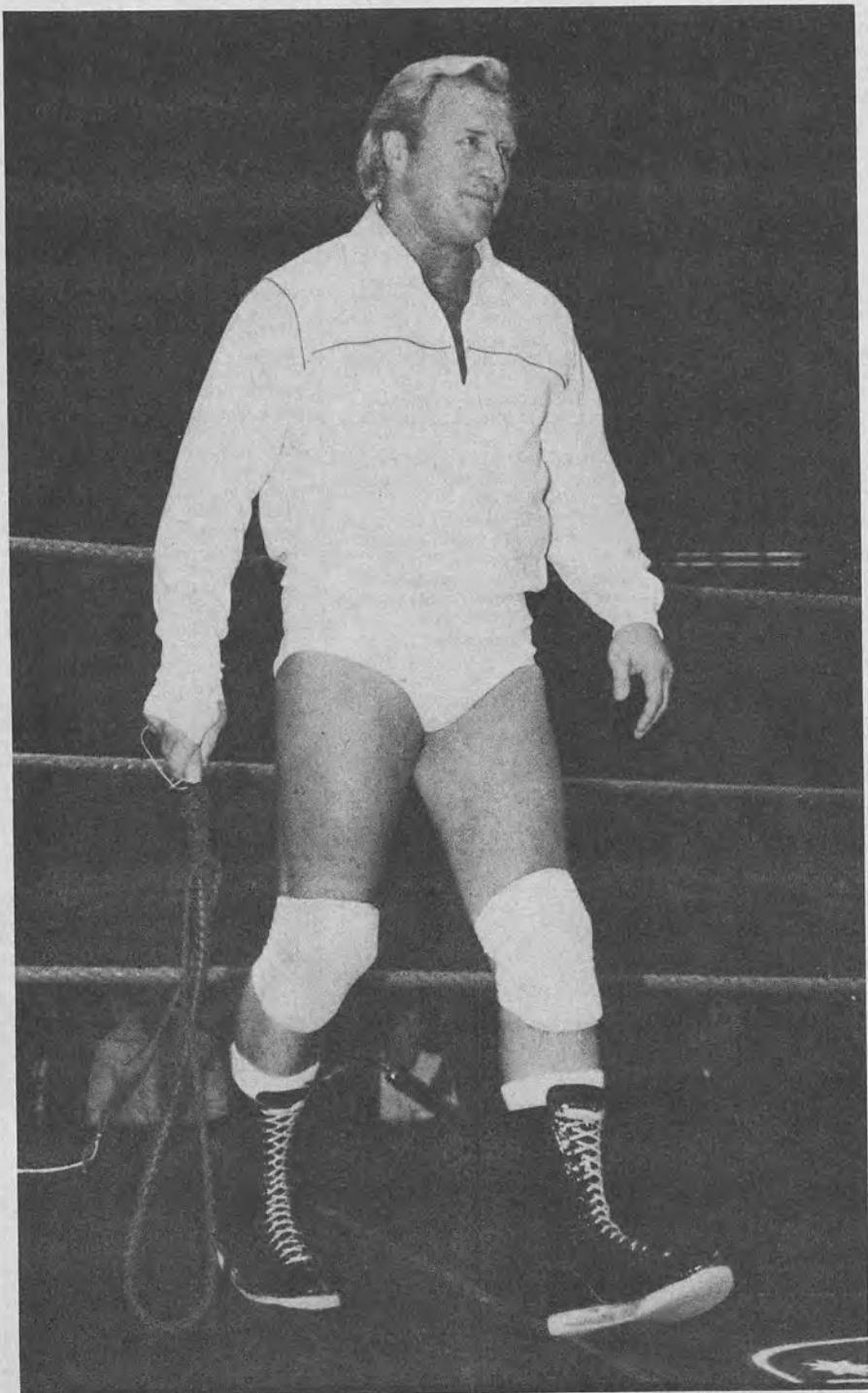
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# INTERVIEW

## NICK BOCKWINKEL

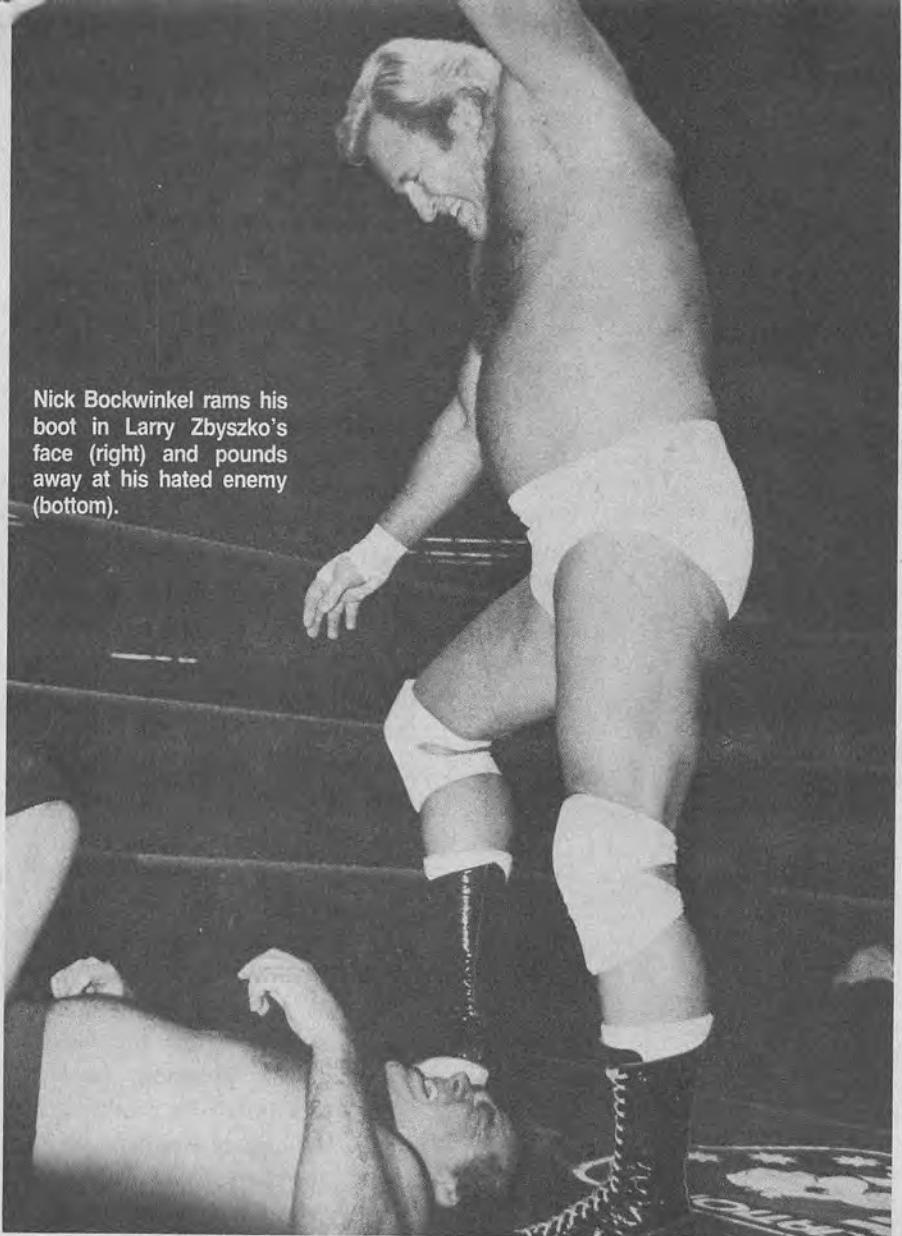


**N**ICK BOCKWINKEL IS an amazing man. At a point in his career where most wrestlers would be considered over-the-hill and long past their prime, Bockwinkel has revitalized his style and his attitude.

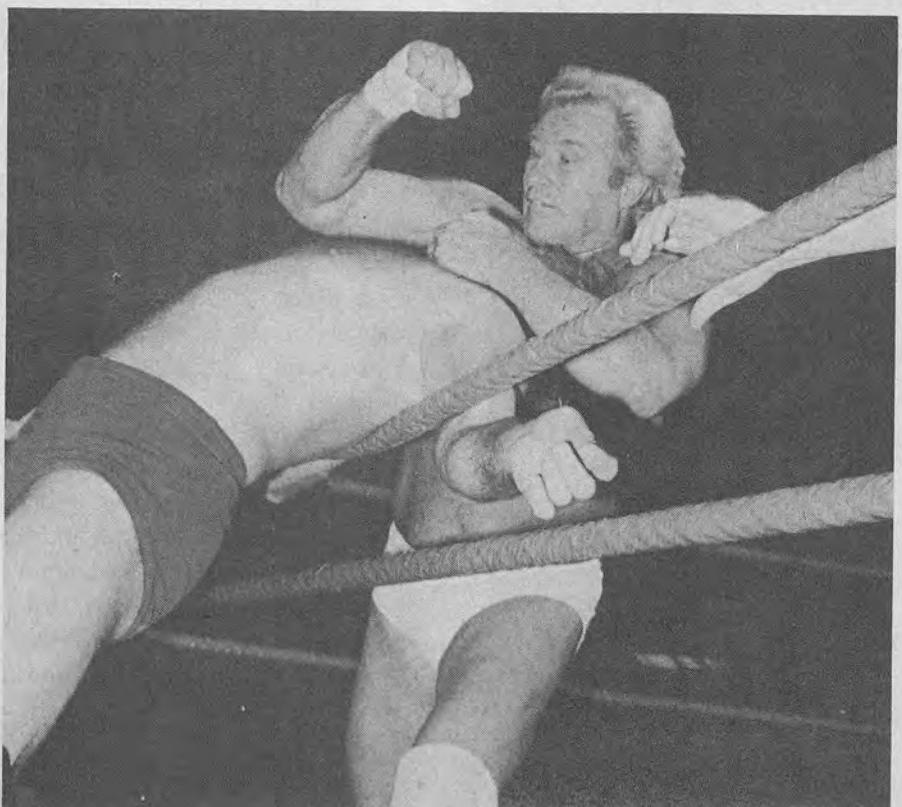
Hated by AWA fans for years, Bockwinkel has become the favorite in his feud with the nunchaku-wielding Larry Zbyszko. The cheers of the fans seem to have brought a new consistency and a renewed self-assurance to his wrestling style. And his boasts of winning a fourth AWA World title from current champ Stan Hansen are being taken seriously by many people—including Hansen himself.

Bockwinkel recently found himself on the receiving end of Zbyszko's nunchaku sticks, and wound up with an unwanted vacation from the ring. He wound up in the hospital for several days, and was watched closely by doctors for several more. The time off from the ring gave him a chance to think about whether or not to become embroiled in a bitter feud with Zbyszko while simultaneously seeking title matches with Hansen. The choice must have taken all of 30 seconds or so.

Long regarded as one of the most intelligent spokesman for the sport, Bockwinkel was interviewed recently by *Sports Review* Wrestling reporter Dave Rosenbaum. He spoke candidly about his hopes for a fourth AWA title and his violent feud with Zbyszko.



Nick Bockwinkel rams his boot in Larry Zbyszko's face (right) and pounds away at his hated enemy (bottom).



**Q:** You've won the AWA title three times. At this advanced stage of your career, what makes you think you can win it a fourth time?

**A:** There are a number of factors that will contribute to my eventual success. I can most truthfully state that I'm in the best shape of my life. I am fully recovered from the injuries inflicted by that backstabber Zbyszko. I work out every day. I am going to prove to Zbyszko that his illegal tactics will not stop me. But most important, I have the support of the fans. Their encouragement will drive me toward my goal of taking the AWA title from Stan Hansen.

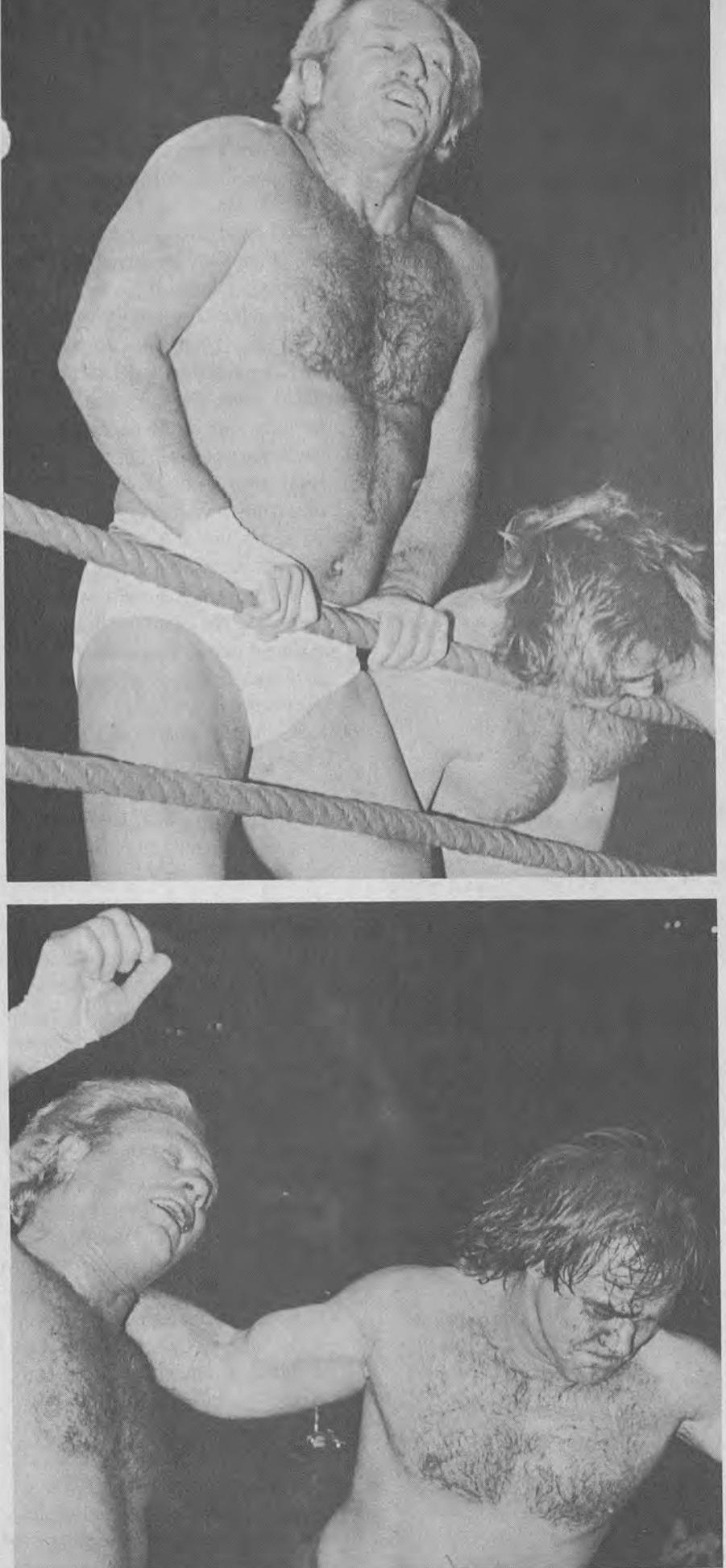
**Q:** So age is not a factor?

**A:** Age has never been a factor, merely a chronological yard stick for measuring the accomplishments of my great career. I have the body of a 20 year old, the wisdom of an aged scribe.

**Q:** Nick, about that incident with Zbyszko. There was serious question about your ability to ever wrestle again. In fact, many people were wondering whether you would survive. While recovering in the hospital, did these thoughts ever cross your mind?

**A:** Most definitely. A deep-thinking individual such as myself always remains aware of all possible consequences. I knew that my injuries were serious. One does not get beaten over the head by nunchaku sticks, as they are called, without suffering some sort of injury. But I have tremendous inner drive. I vowed to recover and eventually return to the ring. In many ways, this incident made me a more determined wrestler. I had new goals. Once the doctors assured me that I would fully recuperate, there was no doubt. I would return and get revenge.

**Q:** What was your reaction to the fans? I mean, you have never been a crowd favorite. It would be safe to say that you were one of the most hated men in wrestling history. But now, the fans are on your



Bockwinkel hopes to teach Zbyszko the same lesson another of the sport's legends taught him six years ago. Nick pulls back on the ropes, sending Larry on his back (left), and delivers a piledriver (opposite right). Zbyszko sends Bockwinkel's head into a table (bottom).

side. How does that affect you?

**A:** Well, first of all, I was stunned by the reaction of the fans. Stunned, gratified, and most touched. The fans were obviously able to distinguish good from bad, something for which I had never given them credit. They knew that I was right to stop Zbyszko and they knew that what he did was wrong and illegal, a flagrant violation of the rules. As for the question of the fans' effect, I believe that they will give me the strength to win the title.

**Q:** So, after all this time, you have changed many of your views on the wrestling world?

**A:** Not really. I have always viewed with disdain the tactics practiced by Zbyszko. I cannot be blamed for the past inability of the fans to recognize my greatness. Look at me. I'm a three-time world champion. How many wrestlers can say that? Not Larry Zbyszko. None of these guys. I remain the wrestler I have always been. I just have different people on my side.

**Q:** Of course, you no longer have Larry Zbyszko. Have you considered reconciling . . .

**A:** Never! Absolutely not! I have spoken to him once since the attack and never will again. Whatever I have to say, I will say in the ring. Case closed.

**Q:** Enough of the Zbyszko incident. You recently teamed with Sgt. Slaughter in a tag team match. Now, this is unusual because you two were once bitter enemies.

**A:** That is undeniably true. But in this sport, you quickly find out which people are your friends and which people are your enemies. Sgt. Slaughter is one of the people that proved he was a friend. He visited me in the hospital almost every



day. The first time, I was amazed to see him. I was positive that he had come to do me harm. That couldn't have been further from the truth. He said that he admired me for what I had done and offered his assistance. He also babbled something about American spirit and the Marines, which went right over my head.

**Q:** You are now considered as one of the leading contenders for Stan Hansen's AWA championship. Some people have hinted that the only reason you switched to fan favorite was to get a shot at Hansen, a rulebreaker.

**A:** Who are these 'some people'? Do they know anything at all about wrestling? If I retired tomorrow, I would be remembered as one of the great champions of the sport. Whether as a rulebreaker or fan favorite, I deserved a shot at the title and would have eventually been rewarded with such. I have not changed my style. As for my recently endowed status as a fan favorite, this was not my choice. The fans came into my corner, so to speak. I remain the same wrestler I have always been. And my record speaks for itself. And when I capture a fourth AWA title, that voice will speak louder than ever. □

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# SPECIAL SECTION

*We've reached the midway point of the 1980s—a perfect time to look back and reflect on those sensational and memorable matchups that have already made wrestling history, and that are setting the pace for the future of professional wrestling!*

## HALFTIME— THE GREATEST MATCHES OF THE '80S!

Someone once estimated that if you take the wrestling promotions represented each month in our ratings and count the number of matches held over the course of a year, the result would be some 29,120 wrestling matches. And that doesn't include the promotions that aren't represented in our ratings!

Granted, a good chunk of those are preliminary bouts. But if, for the sake of argument, you even consider *two matches per card* as being of top-of-the-line quality (and often it's more than that), you're still talking over 7,000 matches per year!

This section takes a look at the greatest matches of the years 1980 through 1985. That's six years. Which means that, using the formula above, we had 42,000 matches from which to choose the 24 bouts represented on the following pages.

A monumental task, no?

To be honest, we had to find some sort of a shortcut. So we turned to wrestling's experts: you, the fans. In compiling the 24 greatest matches of the past six years, we reviewed the annual year-end fan poll results for Match of the Year.

So in this section, you'll have the

chance to look back at the six bouts that were voted Match of the Year for 1980 through 1985, as well as the three runners-up to those particular matches—as voted by the readers of our sister publication *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*.

**1980. Match of the Year:** Their feud was one of teacher against student, expert against protege, veteran against rookie. Bruno Sammartino vs. Larry Zbyszko. The hatred ran deep (the result of Zbyszko turning on Bruno in a vicious attack), and the prospect of such a match was enough to cause the WWF to stage the contest in New York's Shea Stadium inside a steel cage. Bruno was the victor, and to this day fans will chant "Bruno! Bruno!" whenever and wherever Zbyszko enters the ring.

**First runner-up:** Could you imagine this match happening today—Hulk Hogan vs. Andre the Giant? It's a virtual impossibility, but six years ago the wrestling world stood still and shuddered as the two behemoths met on the Shea Stadium undercard. Andre scored a pinfall, though tapes indicate that Hogan managed to kick out just before the three-count. After the match, Hogan's manager, Fred

Blassie, placed an object in his charge's elbowpad, and Hogan proceeded to bloody the Giant with a merciless assault.

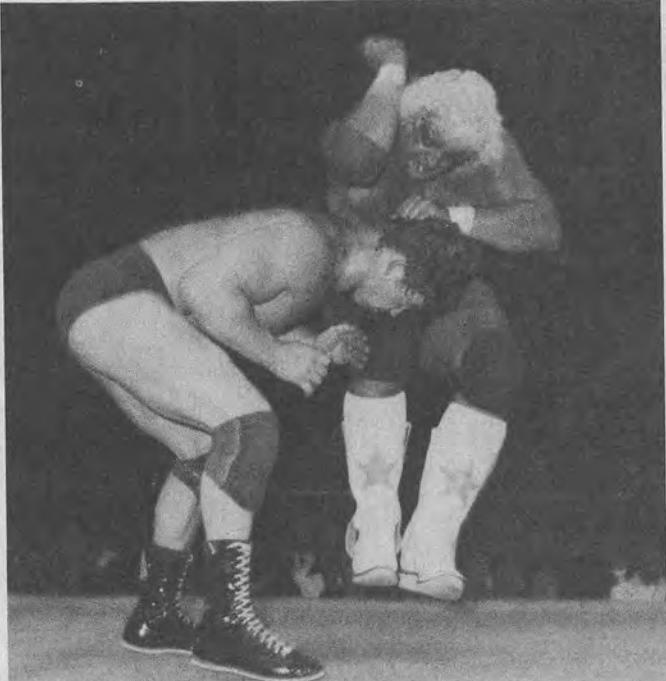
**Second runner-up:** Comiskey Park in Chicago was the site on July 18 as Verne Gagne defeated Nick Bockwinkel for an incredible, unprecedented, and not soon surpassed ninth AWA World title. Bockwinkel contended that Gagne used a chokehold to gain the victory, but then controversy always seems to follow whenever Bockwinkel is near.

**Third runner-up:** WWF champion Bob Backlund vs. "American Dream" Dusty Rhodes. It seemed an unlikely match, and the contest took place in an unlikely location—Japan. Nevertheless, the match was one of the most brilliant of both men's careers as they battled each other in front of a standing room only crowd. Rhodes was disqualified after he accidentally hit the referee.

**1981. Match of the Year:** Fans had never seen Andre the Giant as obsessed with revenge as he was after Killer Khan broke Andre the Giant's ankle, and placed the legendary "Eighth Wonder Of The World" out

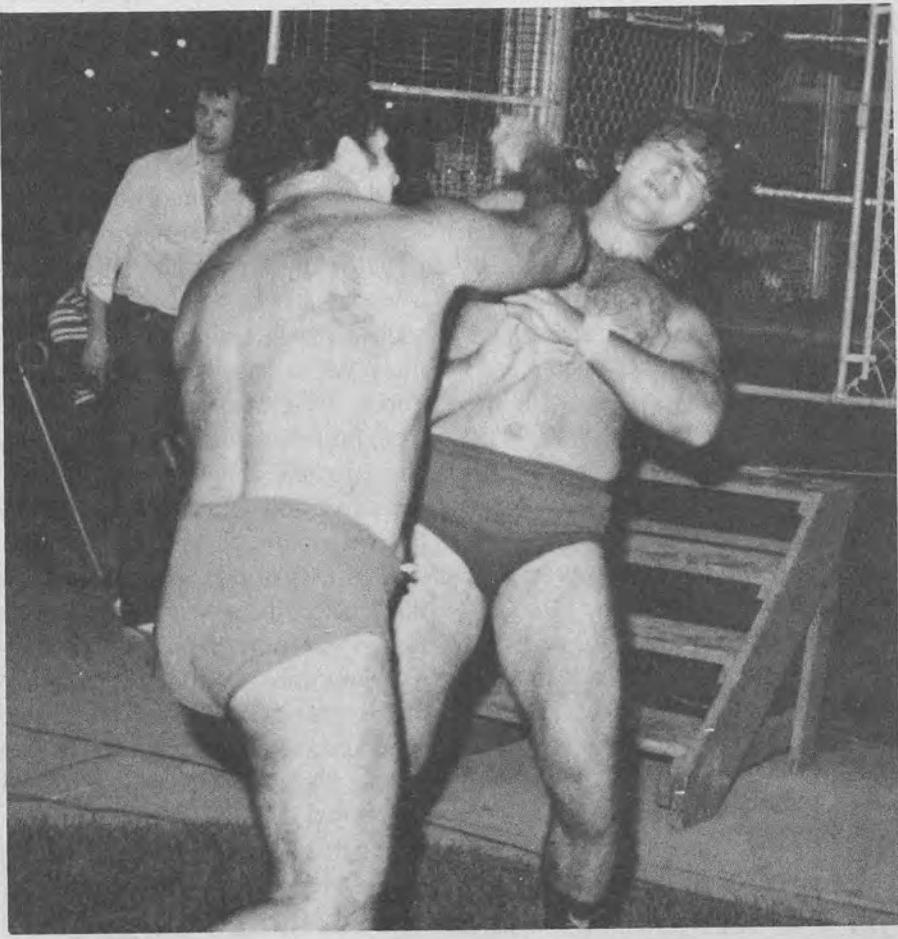
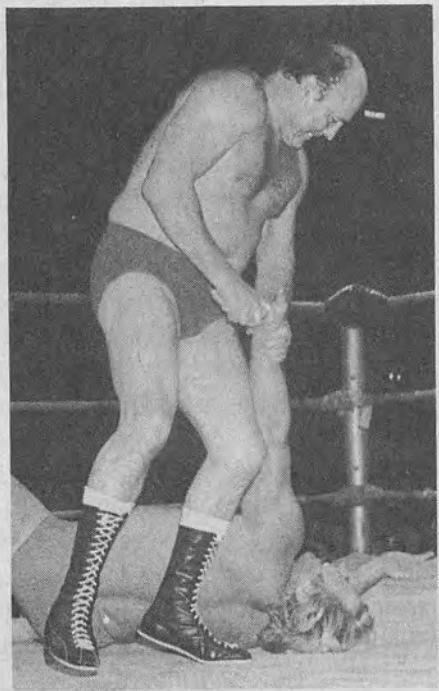
(Continued on page 60)

# 1980 GREATEST MATCHES

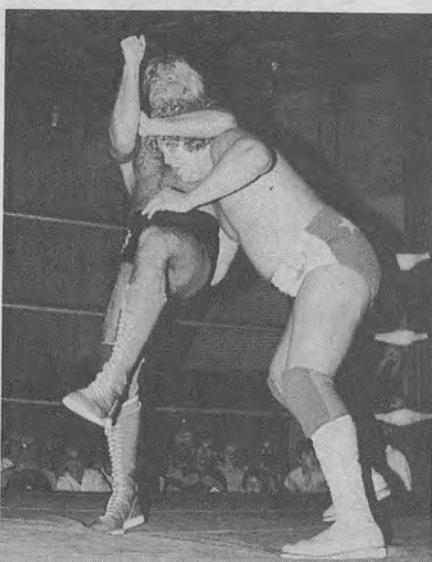
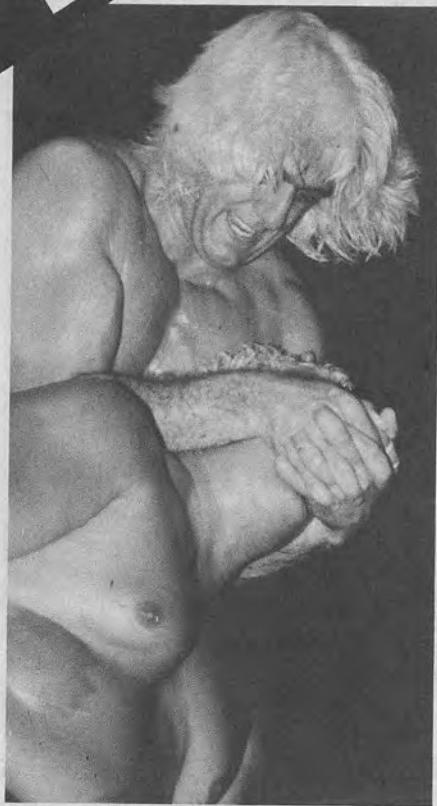


A pair of what would now be considered unlikely matchups highlighted 1980. Left: Hulk Hogan puts the squeeze on Andre the Giant. Above: Dusty Rhodes chops down Bob Backlund during a WWF title match in Japan.

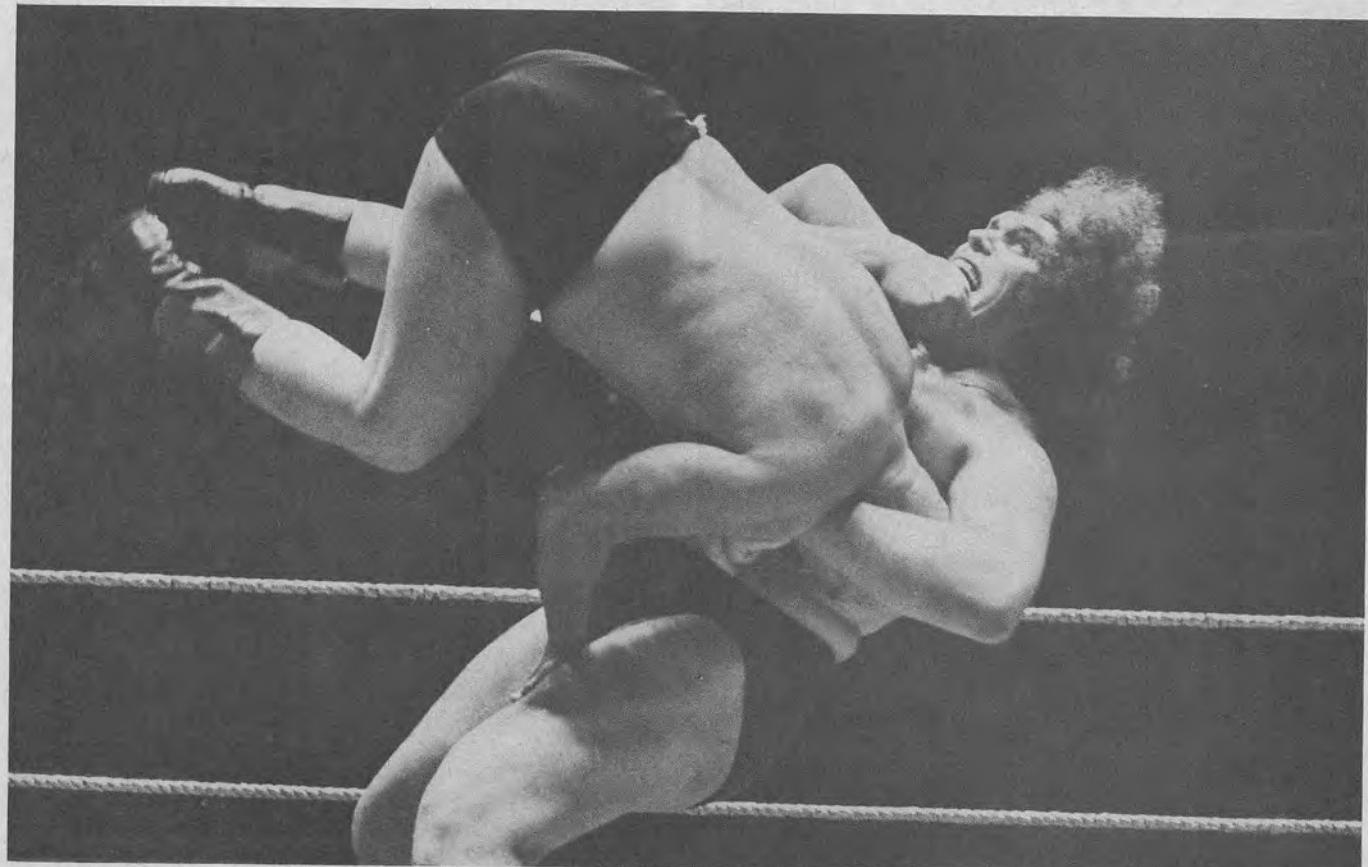
Below: Verne Gagne wins the AWA title from Nick Bockwinkel and begins his ninth and final reign as World champion. Right: The culmination of the Larry Zbyszko-Bruno Sammartino feud was a cage match at Shea Stadium. Following his loss, Zbyszko charges Bruno from behind, but the "Living Legend" spins around and levels his foe with a right cross.



# 1981 GREATEST MATCHES



Left: Ric Flair defeats Dusty Rhodes in April to win his first NWA World title and begin his domination of the decade. Above: Briefly, Michael Hayes left The Freebirds and was the fan favorite in this classic against Terry Gordy. Right: WWF champion Bob Backlund and Intercontinental champion Magnificent Muraco turned the wrestling world upside down.

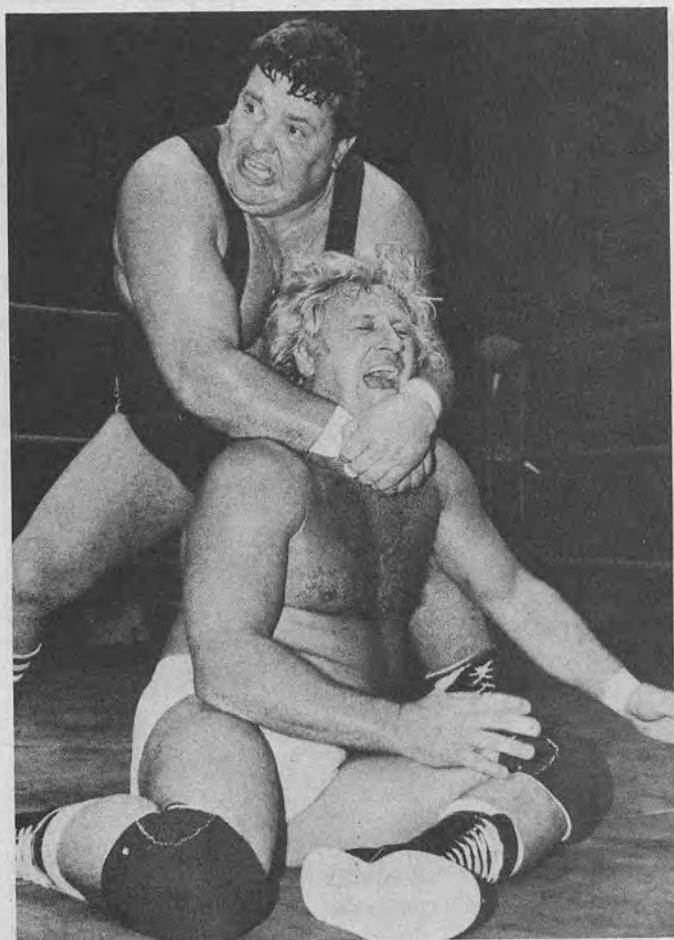


Andre the Giant tests his mended broken ankle by suplexing Killer Khan. Andre sought and gained revenge against the Killer.

# 1982 GREATEST MATCHES



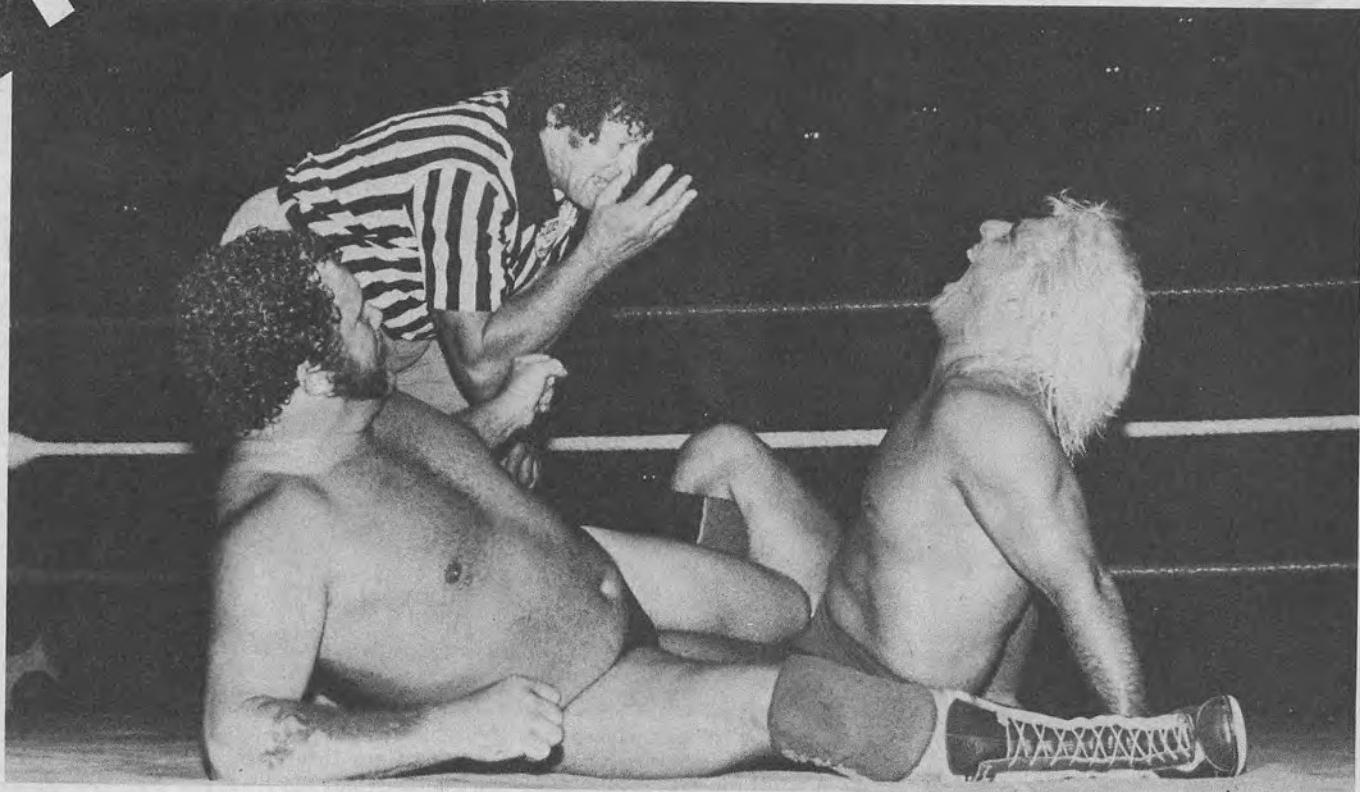
Four years into his WWF title reign, Bob Backlund proved his championship stock had not diminished. Above: Backlund defeated Jimmy Snuka in a cage match that ended a grueling three-match Madison Square Garden series that would be remembered for a tremendous act of bravery by the loser. Right: Backlund put up his WWF title against Ric Flair's NWA title on enemy turf in Atlanta. The match ended in a double countout.



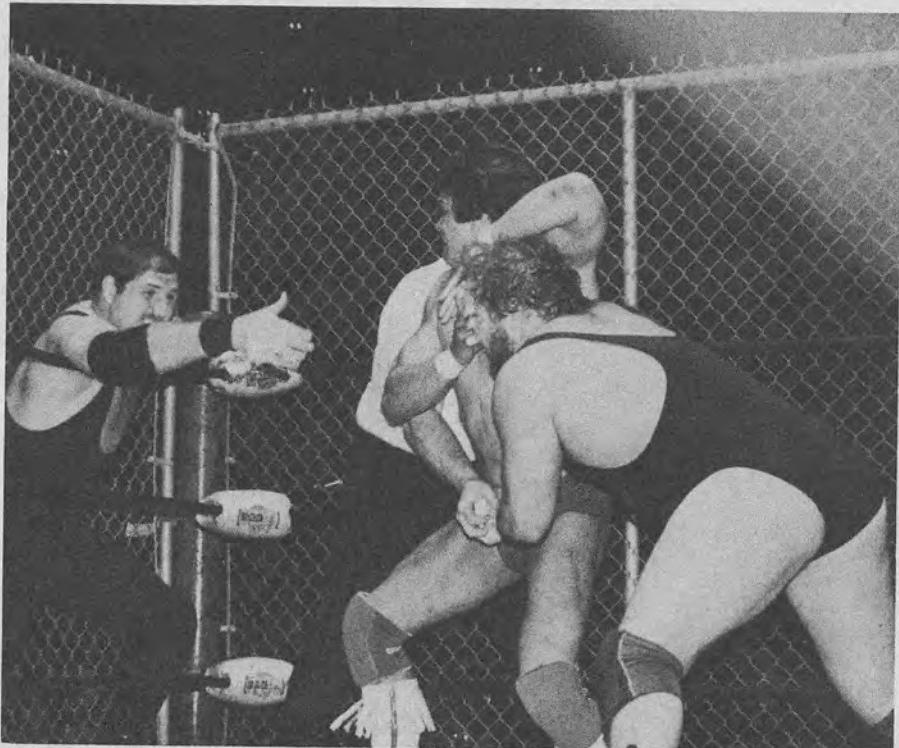
Left: Austrian Otto Wanz stunned the wrestling world with his title victory over AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel. Above: Two months later, Bockwinkel would regain the championship.

# 1983

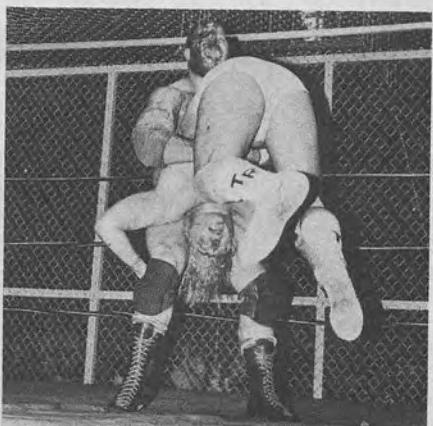
# GREATEST MATCHES



Above: Harley Race made NWA wrestling history in June when he took two out of three falls from Ric Flair in St. Louis and captured his seventh World title. Race had shared the record of six NWA title victories with the legendary Lou Thesz.



Above: Jay Youngblood prevents Don Kernodle from tagging off to his partner, Sgt. Slaughter. Youngblood and Rick Steamboat would win the NWA tag team title in this bloody cage match in Greensboro, North Carolina. Right: Magnificent Muraco ends Pedro Morales' second Intercontinental reign and begins his second run as champion.

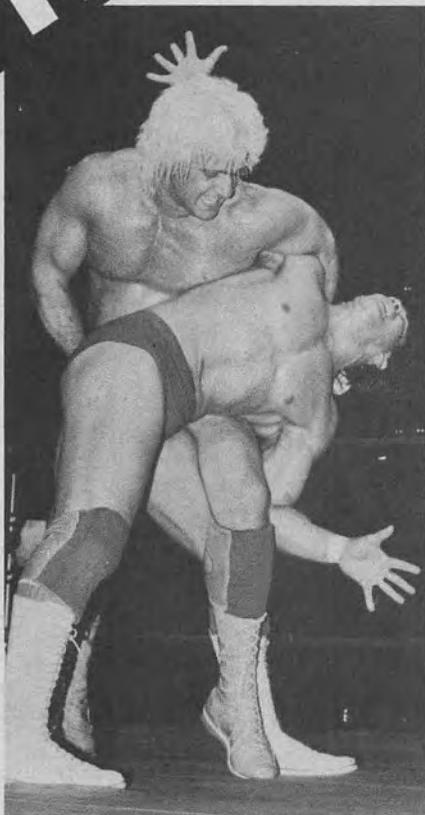


Neither Tommy Rich nor Buzz Sawyer were ever the same after their ugly feud.



# 1984

# GREATEST MATCHES



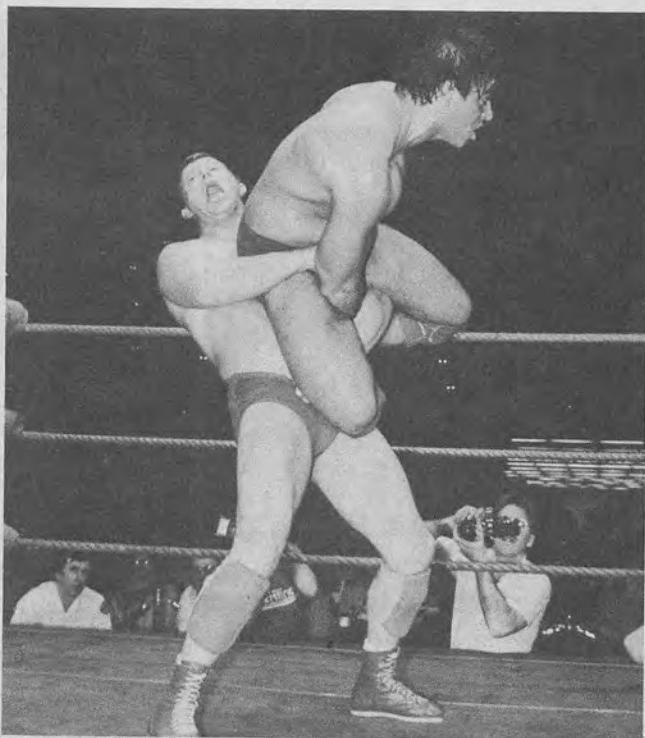
Left: In the first NWA-sanctioned card of wrestling in the New York area in 20 years, Ric Flair and Rick Steamboat dazzled the fans at the Byrne Meadowlands Arena with a sensational 45-minute match. Above: Kerry Von Erich wrestles the NWA title from Flair on an emotional day at Texas Stadium.



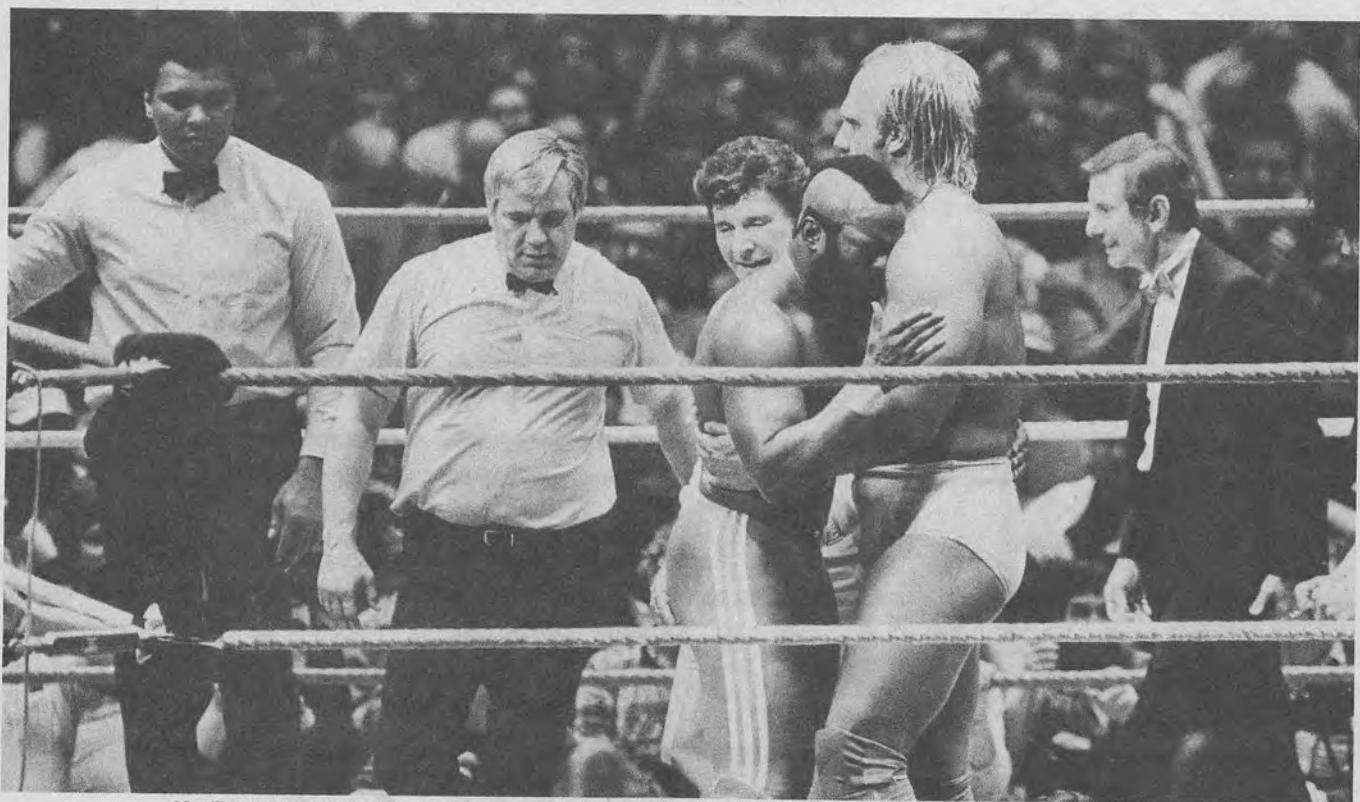
Left: Hulk Hogan puts The Iron Sheik out to dry with a clothesline, thus beginning his incredible reign as WWF champion. Above: Rick Martel captures the AWA title from Jumbo Tsuruta.

# 1985

# GREATEST MATCHES

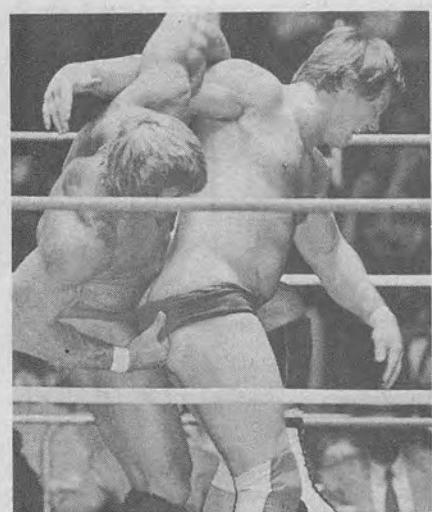


Top left: Hawk pounds Nikita Koloff as World War III between The Road Warriors and the Russians begins. Left: Nikita throws Ric Flair across the ring in his first NWA title match. Above: The scientific match of the decade saw Bob Backlund challenge AWA champion Rick Martel.



Mr. T falls into Hulk Hogan's arms as WrestleMania, the largest event in the sport's history, comes to a conclusion. Also in the ring are referees Muhammad Ali and Pat Patterson, timekeeper Liberace, and ring announcer Billy Martin.

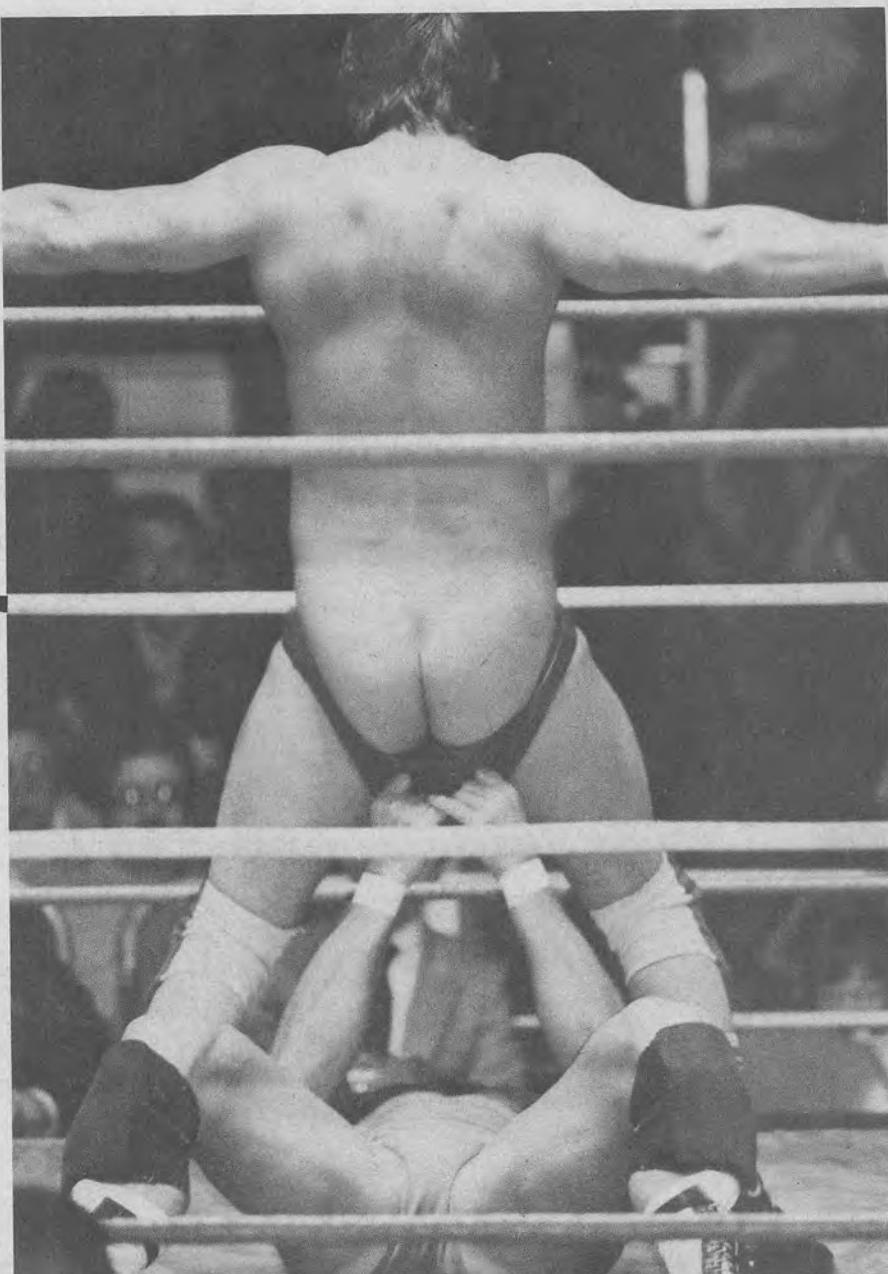
# The Bare Facts Behind . . .



No ifs, ands, or butts . . . the Piper-Orndorff feud has hit rock bottom.

*Over a year after it began, the feud between Roddy Piper and Paul Orndorff is still going strong. And while this particular match may not put an end to that feud, it may help us get to the naked truth behind the continuing violence!*

*Photos by David Fitzgerald*



## **PAUL ORNDORFF'S HUMILIATION OF RODDY PIPER!**

**N**OW THAT THE WrestleMania 2 extravaganza is history, the first WrestleMania card seems to have faded completely from the course of human events. The circumstances of March 31, 1985, seem so far away: Jimmy Snuka was still wrestling in the WWF, Bruno Sammartino Jr. was on the card, Greg Valentine was Intercontinental champion, Wendi Richter was women's champion, and King Kong Bundy wrestled S.D. Jones in a match lasting only nine seconds.

It does seem strange, doesn't it? Snuka is now gone, as are Bruno Jr. and Richter. Randy Savage wore the Intercontinental belt at WrestleMania II, and Bundy's level of competition has improved greatly in 12 months.

But the most interesting development of the past year may well be the relationship—and deterioration thereof—between Roddy Piper and Paul Orndorff.

At WrestleMania, Piper blamed Orndorff for the fact that "Mr. Wonderful" was pinned in their tag team match against Mr. T and Hulk Hogan. The fact of the matter was that Piper and Orndorff had their signals crossed, but Piper was never one to allow facts to get in the way of his emotional reactions to people and situations. Piper was outraged. He began calling Orndorff "Mr. Blunderful."

And the feud was on.

Piper vs. Orndorff became the *feud du jour* in the WWF throughout 1985, continuing with all its violent fervor well into 1986.

And now it has come to this: Humiliation. Embarrassment. Degradation.

And the fans are loving every minute of it.

Because, you see, the object of the feud is no longer to pin the other man's shoulders to the mat. That objective had been discarded months ago.

No, by now the verbal taunts have all been said. The offensive



match strategies have all been exhausted. The defenses against the pinfall are all in place.

Now, a Piper-Orndorff match involves only one objective: to shame the other person so greatly that the collective voice of the fans will swell up in a roar of ridicule.

Or, as Gorilla Monsoon might put it, "they're *literally* trying to beat the pants off each other!"

Maybe that was the objective of their feud all along, and they just didn't recognize it themselves. After all, Piper felt humiliated by the WrestleMania loss (who wouldn't, suffering defeat in front of the largest wrestling audience in the sport's history?), and he had to find a way to vent the anger and frustration he was feeling. What better way for Piper to enjoy revenge than to make Orndorff, in his mind the cause of the loss, suffer the same humiliation he was feeling?

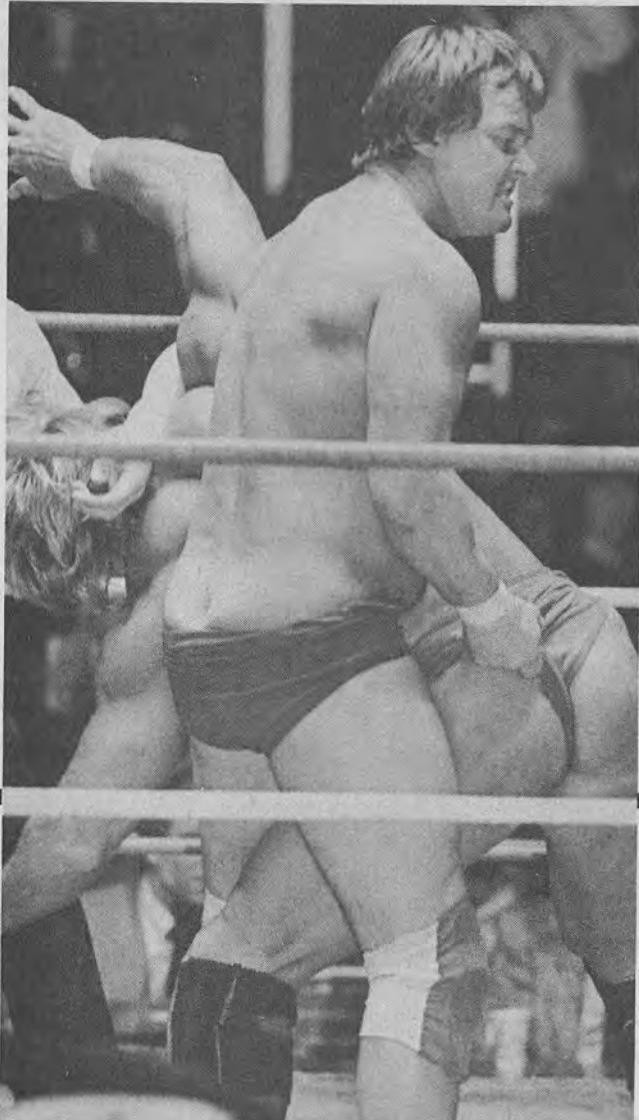
Humiliation in the form of a pinfall failed. Humiliation in the form of violent beatings failed. Orndorff, to the reprise supplied by the cheers of the fans, always rebounded to turn Piper's anger back on "The Rowdy Scot."

But now Piper has taken a new strategy in his war with Orndorff. He is trying to make Mr. Wonderful the butt of his joke, so to speak. All due to the fact that Piper has . . .

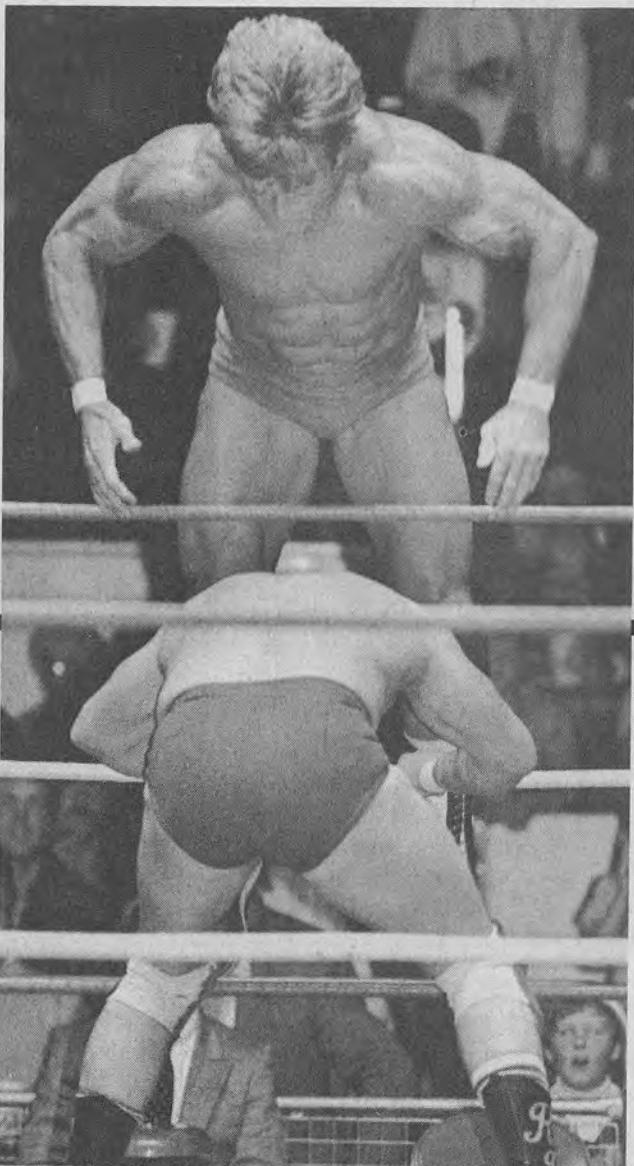
. . . hmmmm. Maybe the Monsoon quote above would be the most tactful: Piper has literally been trying to beat the pants off of Orndorff. Well, not the pants; the wrestling trunks. But you get the idea.

However, like any other of Piper's matches, his strategy is not implemented without considerable cost.

Piper is the type of wrestler who will absorb five blows to the head in order to get in one good shot of his own. He really doesn't seem to care about his own image or well-



Piper's strategy (if that's what he wants to call it) finally pays off (above). But there is still a match to be won, and Orndorff comes close with a sunset flip (right).



being, as long as he can get the job done against his opponent.

And that's the key that has cost Piper in his matches with Orndorff. His attempts to embarrass Orndorff have rebounded on himself.

And so Piper has been suffering the same humiliation as Orndorff, only more so. Sometimes twice or three times in a match in order to see "Mr. Wonderful" suffer embarrassment that one time.

Piper, surprisingly, does not enjoy these matches. He is finally getting his revenge against Or-

dorff, but his new tactic has cost him far more embarrassment to himself than Orndorff could ever experience. And Piper has been using this tactic not only in singles matches, but in tag team matches as well. In fact, a recent cage match in the Nassau Coliseum between Piper and Bob Orton and Orndorff and Bruno Sammartino saw Piper and Orndorff scrambling to pull each other's pants down.

Professional wrestling? Not exactly. But wrestling allows such indiscretions, mainly because it is

a sport not only of competition, but of emotions. It is a sport in which pride and honor play as great a part as the won-lost record at the end of the month. Piper's won-lost record against Orndorff may not be too good, but his sense of honor and pride is even worse due to the efforts of Orndorff.

But if this continues much longer, these two wrestlers may have to change their names. The feud might soon be known as a battle between "The Rowdy Scut" and "Mr. Bunderful."

Or maybe not. □

# **TULLY BLANCHARD: “MAGNUM T.A. AND HIS FANS CAN GO TO HELL!”**

*Photos by Floyd See & Eddie Cheslock*

**L**EAVE ME PUT it this way," Tully Blanchard explains. "These fans are parasites. They work all day in their boring jobs, taking all kinds of garbage from their bosses for two or three dollars an hour. So after a long day, they're all wound up. These fans have nothing to live for, they have nothing to work for. Their brains are dead. Their lives are meaningless. They go home to their ugly, nagging wives and loud, disrespectful kids. Face it, it's a dead-end life."

The National champion was on a roll.

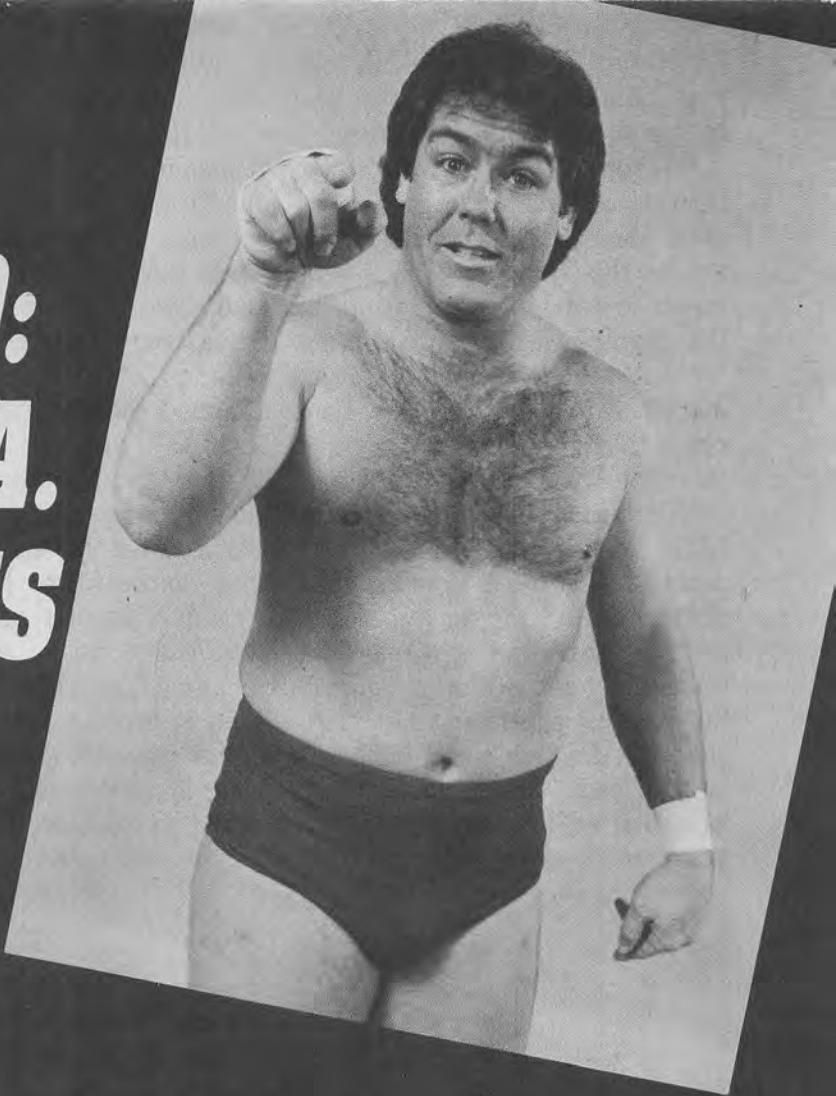
"So they pick up their worthless bodies, pile the family into this 15-year-old worthless heap of sheet metal with 153,000 miles on it, and drive off to the wrestling matches.

"Then they get to the arena and see this guy, we'll call him Magnum T.A., who's a carbon copy of their lives," continued Blanchard, a sly smirk on his face. "Magnum T.A. doesn't question authority, never tries to buck the system, does nothing but talk about wrestling and live this boring, straight-as-an-arrow existence. Of course the fans love it! This guy, this Magnum, is living their lives, but in a

more glorified way. He's a nothing, just like them, and they shout 'T.A.! . . . T.A.! . . . T.A.!"

"Listen, I don't have to explain it any further. The fans want me to be just like him. They hate me because I'm different, because I do what I want to do and enjoy life. Well, listen to this: Magnum T.A. and his fans can go to hell!"

Blanchard rises from the chair, his perfectly-tailored Giorgio Armani suit falling perfectly into place. Expertly-crafted Swiss watch, the most expensive leather shoes. Blanchard flashes his wallet, overflowing with cash, American



**U.S. champion Magnum T.A. and National champion Tully  
Blanchard have been feuding for over a year. Now,  
Blanchard has taken on the fans with a vicious verbal assault  
that has Magnum fuming**

Express gold card peeking out from between two \$100 bills. He carries all the signs of success.

Maybe Blanchard wasn't just blowing off steam. Maybe he was right. Magnum T.A. certainly does not live the "good life." He is dedicated to two goals: to retain the U.S. championship, and to win the NWA World title from Ric Flair. But when it comes to Tully Blanchard, Magnum T.A. does not sit still.

"He said that I could go to hell?" Magnum T.A. questioned during a brief break from his daily workout. "And my fans, too? Listen, the man can say what he wants. He's entitled to his opinion, but you just show him this." T.A. lifted the U.S. belt out of his leather gym bag. "This is something I have that he'll never have again.

Know why? Because it takes hard work and dedication to get where I am. He's incapable of that."

Magnum went back to his workout. He pumped away, lifting nearly twice his weight in iron as sweat dripped off his face. Magnum was bothered, however. Veins were popping from his neck. Obviously angry, he slammed the barbells against the floor.

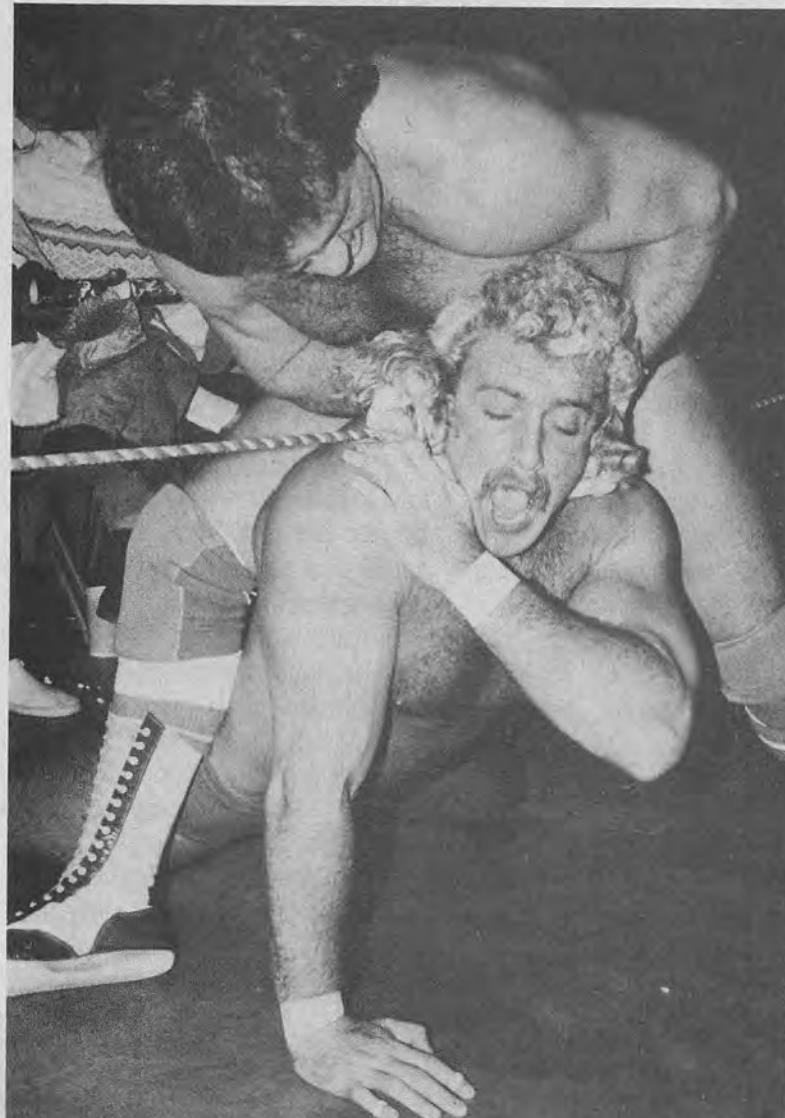
"That guy is lower than I thought," he grumbled. "I can handle what he says about me. Lord knows I've put up with enough of his crap in the ring, but he'd better watch what he says about my fans. These people have been supportive of me from the start. I may get my strength from lifting these weights, but my energy comes from the fans. If he gets

them riled up, we're unstoppable."

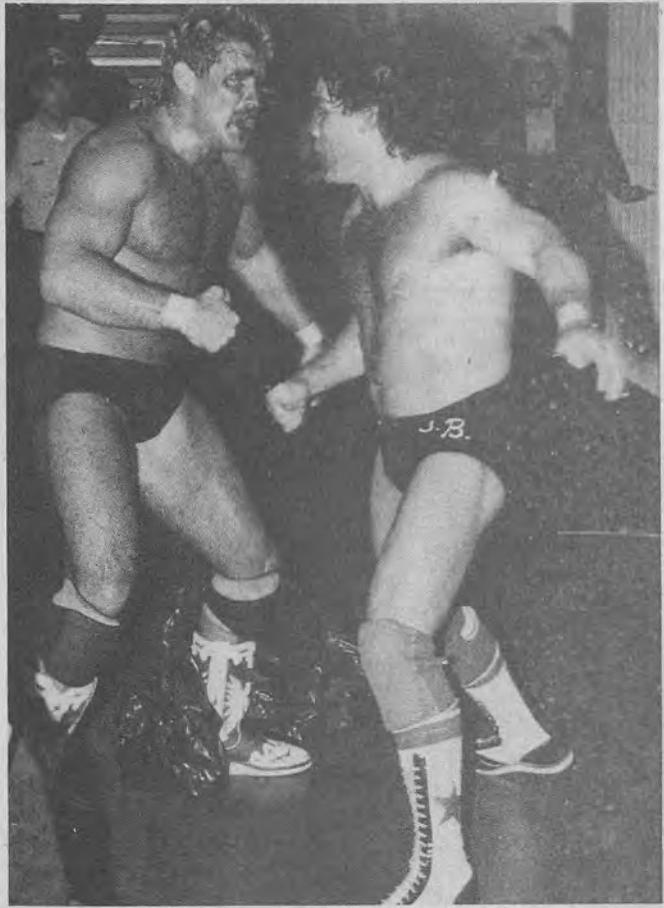
That may be true, but Blanchard's remarks and tactics usually seem to drive Magnum T.A. to a lower level. At this point in their feud, Blanchard knows how to get under T.A.'s skin. Magnum prides himself on his abilities as a scientific wrestler, but when his opponent is Blanchard, anything goes.

During a recent match in Richmond, Virginia, Blanchard grabbed the ring microphone and ground it into Magnum's face. Blood poured from T.A.'s mouth, but having recovered later in the match, he used similar tactics on Blanchard, turning the ring into a sea of red.

This scene is not atypical of a Blanchard-Magnum battle. The two have engaged in numerous mara-



Blanchard and Magnum barely saw the inside of the ring during a recent battle. Magnum gasps for air as he is choked along a divider rope (left). Blanchard stomps the U.S. champion's face into the floor (above).



Tommy Young makes a vain effort to restore order to what was billed as a "wrestling match" (above left). Unable to lift their arms to defend themselves, T.A. and Tully flail away at each other (above right). Magnum delivers what he considers a suitable gift for his rival (bottom).

thon matches, and it is clear that their feud goes beyond the U.S. championship. If this were purely a battle for a belt, it would have ended long ago, back on Thanksgiving 1985, when Magnum regained the title from Blanchard. That was supposed to be their last meeting. Since then, they've wrestled sometimes as often as three or four times a week.

Could it be that Blanchard's sole purpose is to embarrass T.A. in front of the fans? Certainly, nothing would please Blanchard more than to see the fans turn on their beloved hero. But Blanchard laughs when confronted with the idea.

"That's utterly ridiculous," he says, "and I'll tell you why." Blanchard is always ready to spread the gospel. "I've embarrassed this guy so many times, I've lost count. It's no longer a matter of proving I'm best. That's been shown. All I want is that belt."

"The fans obviously aren't too

bright," Blanchard adds. "In their own little messed-up minds, they've convinced themselves that Magnum is worthy of their praise. Well, those jerks are right. Slime worships slime. Listen, I've wasted enough time talking about Magnum and his fans. I've got better things to do. I'm going partying.

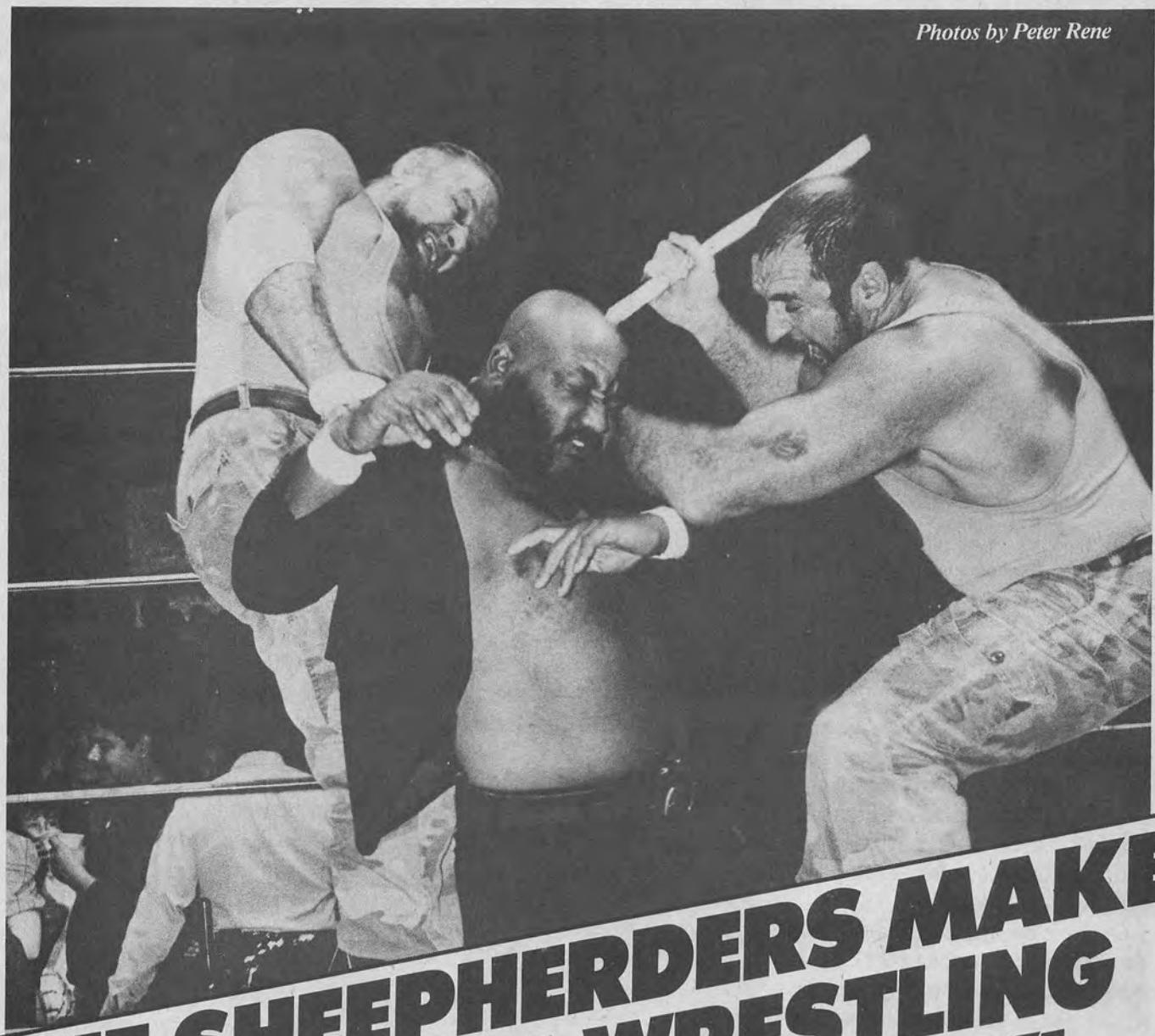
My fans, the only ones that count, await me."

With that, Blanchard smiled and looked over toward the king-sized waterbed that sat in the middle of the room. He walked out the door, leaving little doubt that he'd return with a companion. Tully Blanchard is very sure of himself. □



# **Sheer Violence In The UWF**

*Photos by Peter Rene*



**THE SHEEPHERDERS MAKE  
TAG TEAM WRESTLING  
WILD AND WOOLLY!**

## **The latest wave of anti-American sentiment comes from New Zealand and The Sheepherders. But this close-knit tag team isn't all talk. They're the UWF champions in an area known for excellent tag team competition**

**T**HE KIWI SHEEPHERDERS are sitting on the floor eating lunch. Make that *destroying* lunch. These guys are disgusting. You can guess what they're eating. Leg of lamb. Or is it leg and lamb? Who can tell? Luke Williams stuffs a huge piece in his face. Sickening. Grease pours down his face and off his arm. This poor lamb is in big trouble. Who knows what's down in Luke Williams' stomach?

Or Butch Miller's, for that matter. He makes a loud guttural sound. He grits his teeth and a smile comes to his face. "Umm, good! Real man's food from my home country," the New Zealander says. "I can't swallow the food the American trash eats. Hamburgers, french fries, hot dogs. No wonder the Americans don't know how to wrestle."

Butch Miller has spoken. And now Butch Miller is eating. Bones.

By now, lunch is in pieces. What hasn't landed in the mouths of these two hungry wrestlers has landed on the floor, a slimy conglomeration of grease, chewed-up meat, and half-eaten bones. Fortunately, they haven't offered their guest a piece. How do you say no to these two guys? Luke Williams starts to laugh and, within seconds, is hysterical. Butch is confused. He wants to know what's so funny?

"Hey Butch," says Luke. "This lamb of ours looks like DiBiase and Williams!" Now Butch is laughing uncontrollably, spitting out his food. Nauseating! But not far from the truth. It's time for dessert. Kiwi fruit. Green and slimy. There's a connection here.



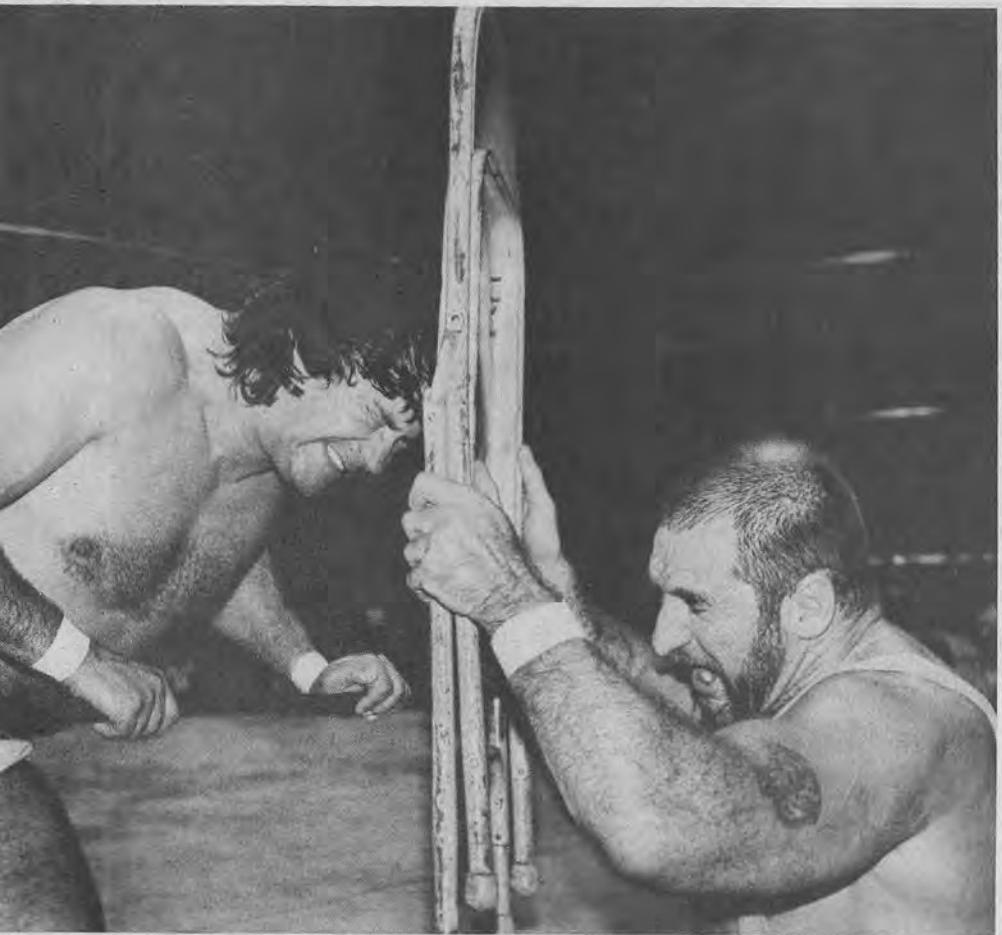
"Crazy" Luke Williams unleashes his fury on Chavo Guerrero as The Sheepherders defend their UWF tag team championship against their number one contenders, the Guerrero brothers. To The Sheepherders, Mexicans apparently qualify as Americans.

The Sheepherders have invited more hatred than any foreign tag team in recent memory. The sight of the New Zealand flag, waved proudly by the Sheepherders, throws the fans into a frenzy. Their rabid anti-American behavior has the fans and American wrestlers enraged and confused. After all, since when is the United States at war with New Zealand? But these wonders from Down Under have the wrestling world asunder. They also have the UWF tag team championship, won recently from Ted DiBiase and Steve "Dr. Death" Williams.

"These guys must be

stopped," says DiBiase, who has been recovering from injuries suffered at the Sheepherders' hands. "How dare they come into America and put down our country, waving their flags and calling us 'American trash.' Well, they might have our belts, but not for long. This is a matter of pride. They had to resort to illegal tactics to beat us, but it'll never happen again. That I guarantee."

The Sheepherders are obviously a formidable combination, however, which they proved in the tag team championship match. DiBiase and Dr. Death had the Sheepherders on the run, but an



Chavo will suffer a mild concussion after being conked on the head with a steel chair by Butch Miller (above). Luke Williams leaves his feet as he drives a right hand into the side of Steve Williams' neck (below).



ers stumbled out of the ring with the tag team belts.

This unlikely outcome was the culmination of a series of events that began 30 years ago in a little

farming town in northern New Zealand. According to sketchy reports pieced together from various sources, Miller and Williams were the only sons of neighboring sheepherders.

One afternoon, an official from the New Zealand Department of Agriculture visited both families with information that would eventually change the face of wrestling: a rich American had purchased the farmers' properties from the bank that held the mortgages, and subsequently pushed them off their own land. The Miller and Williams families were without a home, and without a means of support.

Luke Williams and Butch Miller were in their teens at the time, but already had worked with their fathers on the farm for years. They were hulking boys with little education but vivacious appetites. So, with nowhere else to turn, they became wrestlers and started working toward their only goal: revenge against Americans for taking away their fathers' farms.

After winning championships in New Zealand and building up their skills, Miller and Williams decided to come to America. And although the Sheepherders never talk about that significant event in their lives some 30 years ago, respected sources insist that it's the driving force behind their hatred for Americans. They certainly hate Americans.

"We pile up this American trash and beat it to a pulp," growls Luke. "We make a bloody mess of them in the ring. Soon, we're going to get those stupid American fans and take care of them, too. You can't stop The Sheepherders. Greatest tag team in the world. DiBiase and Dr. Death. The greasy Guerreros. Yellow-bellied scum!"

All of this anger has made Luke and Butch hungry. It's time for dinner. They're better off left alone. □

amazing series of events turned the match around.

The four wrestlers were brawling in the ring when Jack Victory, The Sheepherders' flag carrier, suddenly jumped up on the ring apron. Dr. Death pushed Victory off the apron and Luke Williams left the ring to aid his flagbearer. Now there was action in both corners as Dr. Death went after Victory, and DiBiase and Miller exchanged blows.

DiBiase took control of the match in rapid-fire fashion, body-slammimg Miller and then putting his hated rival in a figure-four leg-lock. But unbeknownst to DiBiase, Luke Williams had grabbed the steel flag pole and climbed to the top rope.

In a stunning turn of fortunes, Williams dove off the turnbuckles, smashing the steel pole into DiBiase's throat and rendering him unconscious. As shock waves filled the arena, Miller pinned the helpless DiBiase, and the Sheepherd-

# RATINGS ANALYSIS

**Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.**

**Another new category—sort of:** Last issue, this column discussed some major changes in the World Class area. This issue, there's another major change in the ratings, though not so far-reaching as declaring a new world champion.

Having looked at the ratings on the previous two pages, you may have noticed a category that was probably unfamiliar to you: UWF. That stands for Universal Wrestling Federation, and it's simply another name for what you've known all along as the Mid-South area.

"The name change is a logical extension of recent developments in the promotion of Mid-South wrestling," explained UWF executive Ken Mantell, who came to the organization from the World Class recently. "The Mid-South television program has been reaching more and more markets than ever before in the United States, we've gained a few foreign markets, and we're negotiating to expand into many, many more over the next few months. We also will be entering into a series of co-promotions in 1986 and 1987 with Jim Crockett Promotions and several Japanese promoters."

"The name change reflects more the global attitude that Mid-South has developed," said UWF President Bill Watts. "Look, I've lived and breathed Mid-South for years and years, but let's face it: When you hear the words 'Mid-South,' you think of Louisiana, Oklahoma, and that area of the country. Now that'll always be my home, but Mid-South wrestling grew to a point where it became more than just the Mid-South area of the country. 'Universal Wrestling Federation' reflects our forward-thinking attitude and the large strides we've made."

"I can understand that the fans may find UWF a little tough to get used to at first, but once they do they'll better understand our goals and aspirations. What are those? Hey—we're not looking to take over the wrestling world or anything. We're just out to give the fans the best possible cards and matches possible. And that's the bottom line to us: the fans. They're the ones who'll really benefit from what the UWF does over the years to come."

**Tag team ridiculousness:** Sometimes we find ourselves at the mercy of wrestling commissions around the country, and it just seems to be getting worse. In the tag team ratings published in last issue's ratings, no fewer than five of the teams rated were contender teams rather than championship teams.

In this issue's ratings, that figure has risen to seven! Except

for the three pairs of world tag team champions, every tag team in the top 10 are contender teams!

The tag team situation these days is a shambles. The U.S. tag team title, the National tag team title, and the World Class tag team title—three major doubles championships to be sure—are all vacant, and have been for some time.

We're not saying that a championship automatically qualifies one for a rating. Not at all. There are still plenty of ratable teams out there, and perhaps a few of this issue's contenders may soon fill those three vacancies.

And there's another reason for all the contender teams. Several major tag team titles have changed hands recently, including the UWF and Mid-Southern belts. The new champions have yet to establish themselves in title defenses as worthy of top 10 ratings.

Nevertheless, the fact that the ratings do include so many contenders is yet another reflection of the chaos and disorganization that clearly surrounds those titles.



Bill Watts

David Von Erich

**A reminder:** There are four major cards scheduled to take place between the time this issue's ratings are determined and the time this issue reaches the newsstands: The WWF's WrestleMania 2 is history, but we've yet to see the AWA's WrestleRock, the NWA's Jim Crockett Sr. Cup tag team tournament in New Orleans, and the World Class area's third annual David Von Erich Memorial Parade of Champions.

It's likely that one or two major titles will change hands as a result of these cards, so this seems like a good time to remind you: Pay attention to the "For period ended ..." notation at the top of the ratings page. That informs you of the timeliness of the ratings, and of the fact that any title changes that have taken place after that date are not reflected in the ratings.

And while we're on the subject, be sure to pick up a copy of the September 1986 edition of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, a special issue that will include full coverage (including a special eight-page full-color section) of the four major cards mentioned above.

**The address for mail:** Do you have reactions, thoughts, opinions, suggestions, and ideas about our ratings? Let us know what they are; we want to know. Send your comments about "Ratings Analysis" and this issue's ratings to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o Sports Review Wrestling; Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

# OFF

# WRESTLING

**Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board.**



Stan Hansen

## TOP 10

- 1—RIC FLAIR  
*NWA World champion*  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—HULK HOGAN  
*WWF World champion*  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—STAN HANSEN  
*AWA World champion*  
322, Borger, TX
- 4—MAGNUM T.A.  
*U.S. champion*  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—RANDY SAVAGE  
*Intercontinental champion*  
245, Sarasota, FL
- 6—DUSTY RHODES  
*No 1 contender: National title*  
302, Austin, TX
- 7—KERRY VON ERICH  
*No. 1 contender: World Class title*  
260, Denton, TX
- 8—RICK RUDE  
*World Class champion*  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 9—TULLY BLANCHARD  
*National champion*  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 10—HACKSAW DUGGAN  
*North American champion*  
280, Glens Falls, NY

**NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings, in addition to the regional ratings from around the country, are based on the official current position of challengers to the top title in each category. (Certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings). Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and mail that comes to our offices.**

## NWA

- World Champion:**  
**RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 1—MAGNUM T.A.  
245, Chesapeake, VA
  - 2—TULLY BLANCHARD  
235, San Antonio, TX
  - 3—RONNIE GARVIN  
231, Montreal, Quebec
  - 4—DUSTY RHODES  
302, Austin, TX
  - 5—WAHOO McDANIEL  
260, Midland, TX
  - 6—NIKITA KOLOFF  
275, Moscow, Russia
  - 7—HACKSAW DUGGAN  
280, Glens Falls, NY
  - 8—LEX LUGAR  
280, Chicago, IL
  - 9—BARRY WINDHAM  
236, Sweetwater, TX
  - 10—BILLY JACK HAYNES  
245, Portland, OR

## AWA

- World Champion:**  
**STAN HANSEN**  
322, Borger, TX
- 1—SGT. SLAUGHTER  
310, Paris Island, SC
  - 2—RICK MARTEL  
236, Quebec City, Quebec
  - 3—BRUISER BRODY  
284, Albuquerque, NM
  - 4—NICK BOCKWINKEL  
245, Beverly Hills, CA
  - 5—SCOTT HALL  
290, Minneapolis, MN
  - 6—LARRY ZBYSZKO  
248, Pittsburgh, PA
  - 7—NORD THE BARBARIAN  
316, parts unknown
  - 8—BORIS ZUKHOV  
254, Leningrad, Russia
  - 9—MARTY JANNETTY  
224, Columbus, GA
  - 10—GREG GAGNE  
220, Robbinsdale, MN

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—THE ROAD WARRIORS  
*No. 1 contenders to NWA World tag team title*  
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH  
*WWF World tag team champions*  
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 3—DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON  
*NWA World tag team champions*  
Combined weight: 472 pounds
- 4—SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNIG  
*AWA World tag team champions*  
Combined weight: 525 pounds
- 5—GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE  
*No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title*  
Combined weight: 511 pounds
- 6—RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON  
*No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title*  
Combined weight: 453 pounds
- 7—STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE  
*No. 1 contenders to vacant U.S. tag team title*  
Combined weight: 499 pounds
- 8—IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF  
*No. 3 contenders to NWA tag team title*  
Combined weight: 524 pounds
- 9—TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON  
*No. 1 contenders: vacant World Class tag title*  
Combined weight: 462 pounds
- 10—CHAVO & HECTOR GUERRERO  
*No. 1 contenders: UWF tag team title*  
Combined weight: 472 pounds

## WWF

- World Champion:**  
**HULK HOGAN**  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 1—RANDY SAVAGE  
245, Sarasota, FL
  - 2—KING KONG BUNDY  
446, Atlantic City, NJ
  - 3—RICK STEAMBOAT  
238, Honolulu, HI
  - 4—JUNKYARD DOG  
260, New Orleans, LA
  - 5—PAUL ORNDORFF  
253, Brandon, FL
  - 6—MAGNIFICENT MURACO  
274, Sunset Beach, HA
  - 7—TITO SANTANA  
245, Mission, TX
  - 8—ADRIAN ADONIS  
303, New York, NY
  - 9—GEORGE STEELE  
298, Detroit, MI
  - 10—JAKE ROBERTS  
246, Stone Mountain, GA

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1—MAGNUM T.A.  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—TULLY BLANCHARD  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 3—RONNIE GARVIN  
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 4—DUSTY RHODES  
302, Austin, TX
- 5—JIM GARVIN  
235, Tampa, FL
- 6—NIKITA KOLOFF  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 7—ARN ANDERSON  
239, Minneapolis, MN
- 8—KONGA THE BARBARIAN  
265, Chicago, IL
- 9—PEZ WHATLEY  
238, El Paso, TX
- 10—BLACK BART  
301, Houston, TX

# CIAL GRATINGS

## WORLD CLASS

- 1—RICK RUDE  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—BRIAN ADIDAS  
238, Denton, TX
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH  
260, Denton, TX
- 4—BRUISER BRODY  
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 5—KEVIN VON ERICH  
239, Denton, TX
- 6—LANCE VON ERICH  
260, Dallas, TX
- 7—THE MISSING LINK  
273, parts unknown
- 8—ICEMAN PARSONS  
242, St. Louis, MO
- 9—BRICKHOUSE BROWN  
232, Winter Haven, FL
- 10—KAMALA  
360, Uganda

## UWF

- 1—HACKSAW DUGGAN  
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 2—DICK SLATER  
235, Tampa, FL
- 3—DICK MURDOCH  
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 4—TERRY TAYLOR  
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 5—BUZZ SAWYER  
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 6—STEVE WILLIAMS  
265, Tulsa, OK
- 7—KOKO B. WARE  
241, Memphis, TN
- 8—CHAVO GUERRERO  
237, Juarez, Mexico
- 9—BRETT SAWYER  
242, St. Petersburg, FL
- 10—TARRAS BULBA  
237, Outer Mongolia

## FLORIDA

- 1—LEX LUGAR  
280, Chicago, IL
- 2—KENDALL WINDHAM  
220, Sweetwater, TX
- 3—BARRY WINDHAM  
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 4—JESSE BARR  
243, Portland, OR
- 5—KEVIN SULLIVAN  
239, Boston, MA
- 6—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN  
310, Sweetwater, TX
- 7—MAHA SINGH  
273, Tampa, FL
- 8—THE CUBAN ASSASSIN  
236, Cuba
- 9—TYREE PRIDE  
231, Haiti
- 10—MIKE GRAHAM  
229, Tampa, FL

## MID-SOUTHERN

- 1—BILL DUNDEE  
214, Melbourne, Australia
- 2—BUDDY LANDELL  
236, Los Angeles, CA
- 3—DUTCH MANTEL  
242, Bucksnorth, TN
- 4—AUSTIN IDOL  
240, Las Vegas, NV
- 5—ABDUL KHADAFY  
265, Libya
- 6—JERRY LAWLER  
234, Memphis, TN
- 7—DIRTY RHODES  
302, Austin, TX
- 8—JOS LeDUC  
280, Godbout, Quebec
- 9—BILLY TRAVIS  
225, Lexington, KY
- 10—PAT ROSE  
232, Atlanta, GA

## CONTINENTAL

- 1—EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET  
227, South Wales
- 2—BRAD ARMSTRONG  
226, Marietta, GA
- 3—JERRY STUBBS  
235, Pensacola, FL
- 4—THE BULLET  
234, parts unknown
- 5—TOMMY RICH  
232, Hendersonville, TN
- 6—ROBERT FULLER  
238, Dyresburg, TN
- 7—TOM PRITCHARD  
220, Houston, TX
- 8—MR. WRESTLING II  
247, Atlanta, GA
- 9—JIMMY GOLDEN  
234, Montgomery, AL
- 10—TIM HOPPER  
235, Morristown, TN

## NORTHWEST

- 1—BOBBY JAGGERS  
265, Dunlap, KS
- 2—TOM ZENK  
237, Robbinsdale, MN
- 3—RIP OLIVER  
245, Tampa, FL
- 4—BILLY JACK HAYNES  
245, Portland, OR
- 5—THE ASSASSIN  
249, parts unknown
- 6—BRADY BOONE  
236, Charlotte, NC
- 7—MIKE MILLER  
260, Memphis, TN
- 8—SCOTT DORING  
255, Minneapolis, MN
- 9—MOONDOG MORETTI  
245, Boise, ID
- 10—COCOA SAMOA  
239, Samoa

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—HULK HOGAN  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—DUSTY RHODES  
302, Austin, TX
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH  
260, Denton, TX
- 4—MAGNUM T.A.  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—RICK STEAMBOAT  
238, Honolulu, HI
- 6—JUNKYARD DOG  
260, New Orleans, LA
- 7—RONNIE GARVIN  
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 8—BARRY WINDHAM  
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 9—KEVIN VON ERICH  
239, Denton, TX
- 10—TERRY TAYLOR  
225, Vero Beach, FL

## MOST HATED

- 1—KING KONG BUNDY  
446, Atlantic City, NJ
- 2—RIC FLAIR  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 3—RANDY SAVAGE  
245, Sarasota, FL
- 4—STAN HANSEN  
322, Borger, TX
- 5—TULLY BLANCHARD  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 6—RICK RUDE  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 7—JIM GARVIN  
235, Tampa, FL
- 8—NIKITA KOLOFF  
276, Moscow, Russia
- 9—ADRIAN ADONIS  
303, New York, NY
- 10—DICK SLATER  
235, Tampa, FL

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TOTALS	135.05 lbs.	
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## MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

be suspended for the way he won the title from Santana. Watch for this ugly wimp to lose his title as well as his woman soon.

STAN MOUFLON  
Pawtucket, RI

### THE RIGHT PRESCRIPTION

We have had our share of hunky wrestlers in recent years—Rick Rude, Hercules Hernandez, Billy Jack Haynes—but none compare with the greatest of them all, Lex Lugar.



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Lex has everything—power, talent, arrogance, looks, body, manager, fans, sex appeal, and competitiveness.

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JANE VALLEY  
DORIS NIGHT  
Lehigh Valley, PA

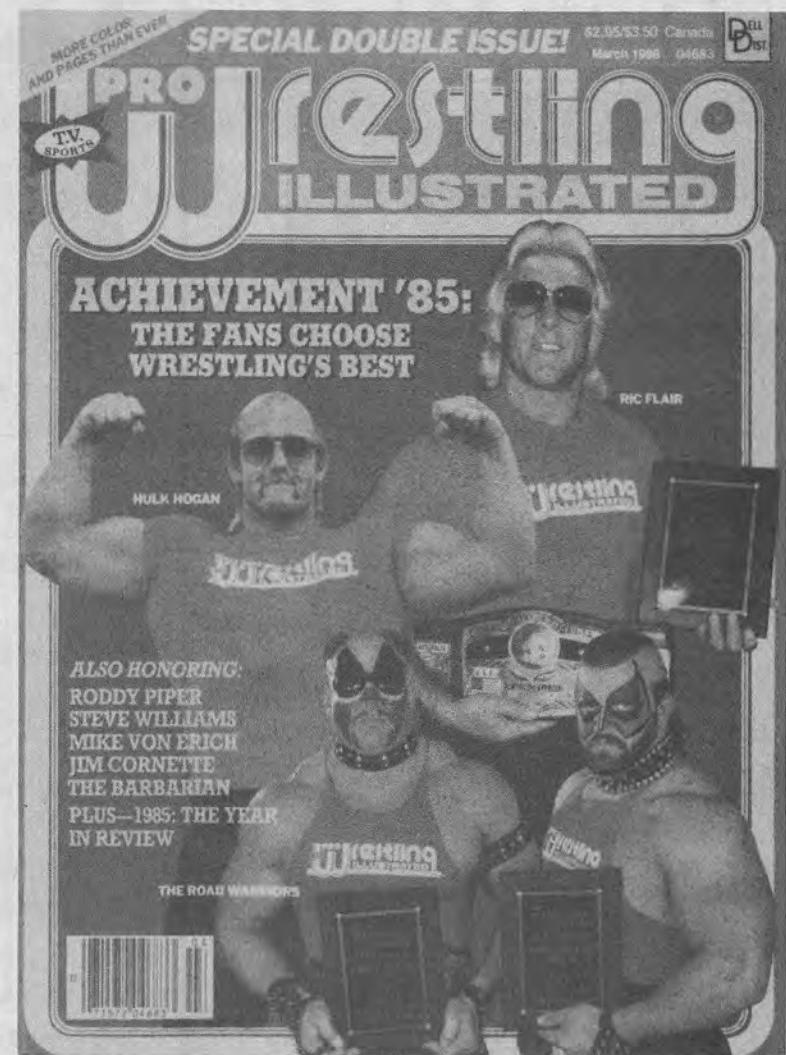
### HYATT-PECKED

I loved Matt Brock's story in May

'86 *Sports Review* ("Sunshine vs.

(Continued on page 49)

# A SECOND CHANCE TO CATCH “THE BIG ONE”



The year-end issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* is always the most anticipated wrestling magazine of the year. And the 1985 year-end issue (March 1986 cover date) was the best one we ever published. At 92 pages, it was our biggest magazine ever and, in addition to the year-end features *PWI* readers have come to expect, it contained eight full-color pages. We have limited supplies of this newsstand sell-out, so don't be disappointed twice.

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A special analysis of NWA World champion **RIC FLAIR**: He bends, but he won't break!



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**NIKITA KOLOFF** overpowers **SUPERSTAR GRAHAM**—Can anyone stop this awesome Russian? . . . Heroes are booed when the dark side of **THE FABULOUS ONES** becomes evident . . . Q & A interview with **LEX LUGAR** . . .

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A sensational full-color pinup of **DUSTY RHODES** . . . Did you win **THE ROAD WARRIOR** contest? Find out who did in this issue! . . . Learn why a match between **TULLY BLANCHARD** and **RIC FLAIR** will never take place . . . An in-depth press conference with **RICK RUDE** . . . Exclusive PWI "Scouting Reports"

All this and much more . . .  
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*Pro Wrestling Illustrated*

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## MAILBAG

(Continued from page 47)



Missy Hyatt is in total control of her relationship with Johnny Tatum. Before long, she may control all of Texas, writes Tatum Burke.

Missy Hyatt: The War Of Hatred And Spite"). The best part revealed Johnny Tatum for the wimpy mongrel all World Class fans know him to be. I think Missy is great. An outspoken goddess who does her own thing and never thinks of the consequences. When I grow up, she's just who I want to be like. Carefree and beautiful, with a dozen men at my beck and call. I hope Missy kicks the stuffing out of Sunshine, and sends the fake blonde screaming from the ring in pain. Go get 'em Missy! We're behind you all the way!

TATUM BURKE  
El Paso, TX

### BRUNO! BRUNO!

Thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Seeing Bruno Sammartino featured on the cover of May '86 *Sports Review Wrestling* brought tears to my eyes. I bought out my newsstand and went searching for more to send to my buddies. I remember returning used milk bottles 20 years ago to scrounge up enough money to see Bruno wrestle in the old Sunnyside

(Continued on page 50)

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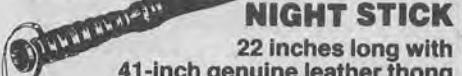
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## MAILBAG

(Continued from page 49)



Bruno Sammartino poses in the trophy room that gives a good indication of how he came to be known as "The Living Legend."

Garden here in Queens. Sunnyside was turned into a Wendy's a while back, but I still get a special feeling everytime I go in and order a stuffed baked potato.

But never in my wildest dreams did I ever expect to find Bruno back on a magazine cover. And he looks great! He appears to be in better shape than he was 10 years ago. I know Bruno would never disgrace himself, never begin a venture he couldn't complete with grace and skill, so I know this comeback is for real. He will stop the loudmouths. He will show Jesse Ventura and Roddy Piper the meaning of the word professional. He will make those men wish they had never mocked him and his heritage. He has always stood for justice and righteousness and never backed down from a challenge in 25 years.

Bruno's back and they're whooping it up across the country!

SALVATORE SANTUCCI

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## TATTERL

(Continued from page 8)

Bobby Heenan, who escaped into the cage and tried to lock out his pursuer. Hogan caught up to Heenan, whipped him into the steel cage, delivered a spinecrusher, and then sent Heenan flying through the door.

The Funks defeated Tito Santana and Junkyard Dog after Jimmy Hart, the Funks' manager, threw his megaphone into the ring. Terry Funk used the megaphone on JYD and went in for the pin. In the other matches, Adrian Adonis pinned Uncle Elmer and Rick Steamboat pinned Hercules Hernandez.

—Butch Gallagher

**ROSEMONT, IL:** Capt. Lou Albano added yet another chapter to his legacy as perhaps the greatest wrestling manager ever on the night of

WrestleMania 2 at the Rosemont Horizon. The Albano-led British Bulldogs won the WWF tag team title from Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine, marking the 12th tag team championship in the Captain's managerial career and 16th WWF tag team title overall.

In the end, Valentine's sadism proved to be the downfall of the defending champions. Valentine could have had a pin on Davey Boy Smith at one point in the match, but pulled his shoulders off the mat to inflict further punishment. Meanwhile, Dynamite Kid moved to the top rope and Smith whipped Valentine into the corner where Kid greeted him head-to-head. Valentine fell to the mat and was pinned by Smith.

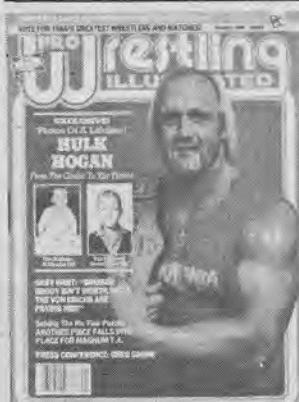
(Continued on page 54)



DYNAMITE KID VS. BRUTUS BEEFCAKE

# BACK ISSUES OF

# PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED



## JANUARY 1986

**July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT:** The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. PLUS: Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

**August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT:** Koff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. PLUS: Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

**June 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Flair.

**August 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

**September 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel, AWA Sheiks.

**October 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

**December 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Albano.

**January 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. PLUS: Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

**February 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. PLUS: Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

**April 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. PLUS: Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

**June 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

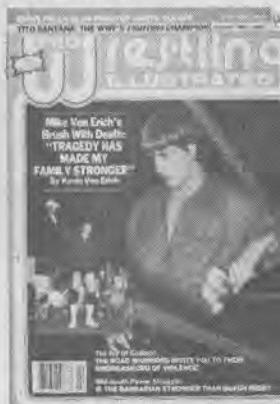
**July 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ivan Koff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

**August 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. PLUS: Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

**October 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

**November 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. PLUS: Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

**December 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. PLUS: Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.



## FEBRUARY 1986

**January 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Harley Race. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

**February 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. PLUS: Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

**April 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Rocky Johnson. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Andre, Rich, Bundy.

**May 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Hacksaw Butch Reed. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

**June 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. PLUS: Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

**July 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. PLUS: JYD, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

**August 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. PLUS: Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

**September 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The PWI Years.

**October 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

**November 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. PLUS: Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

**December 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Kerry Von Erich. Cover story: Barry Windham. PLUS: Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.

**January 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Tito Santana. Cover story: Road Warriors. PLUS: Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

**February 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Magnum T.A. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

**March 1985/SPECIAL YEAR-END AWARDS ISSUE!** FOUR PAGE COLOR SECTION: Billy Jack, Roddy Piper, Ric Flair vs. Kerry Von Erich; PLUS: 1984—The Year In Review.

**April 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Ronnie Garvin. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

**May 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Road Warriors. SPECIAL TAG TEAM ISSUE! Cover story: Fabulous Ones & Rock 'n' Roll Express. PLUS: Windham & Rotundo, Von Erich & Billy Haynes, PWI Rates Top 15 teams.

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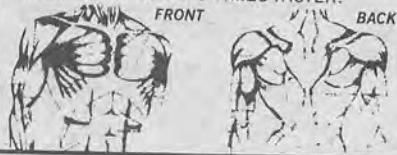
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## TATTERL

(Continued from page 52)

A 20-man tag team-match featured football stars William "The Refrigerator" Perry, Jimbo Covert, Harvey Martin, Russ Francis, and Bill Fralic, but, as expected, a wrestler was the winner. Surprisingly, Francis was the last of the football players to be eliminated after Perry was unceremoniously tossed out by John Studd. When the Hart Foundation eliminated Francis, Andre the Giant, Jim Neidhardt, and Brett Hart were the last three men in the ring. Andre



**ANDRE THE GIANT**

disposed of Neidhardt by throwing him out of the ring, then dumped Hart over the ropes and on top of his partner.

There were two other matches on the Chicago card. The Fabulous Moolah successfully defended her World Women's title by pinning Velvet McIntyre and Cpl. Kirschner pinned Nikolai Volkoff.

—Larry Cohen

**U**NIONDALE, NY: WrestleMania 2 became BoxingMania for one event, a grudge boxing match between Mr. T and Roddy Piper at the Nassau Coliseum. Joan Rivers was ring announcer for the bout and acting guest judges included G. Gordon Liddy, former Burger King pitchman Herb, New Jersey Nets star Darryl Dawkins, and singer Cab Calloway.

Mr. T and Piper both were in excellent hands. Piper prepared for the



**RODDY PIPER VS. MR. T**

match by working with veteran trainer Lou Duva and Mr. T was joined by former heavyweight champion Joe Frazier. Prior to the bout, Piper declared that he would retire from boxing and wrestling if knocked out by Mr. T.

Piper and T stuck to boxing at the start with each trying to wear down the other with well-directed jabs and punches to the body. Before long, however, things went out of control as Piper started punching wildly at Mr. T, looking for a quick knockout.

The bout totally broke up about halfway through round four. Both men were physically exhausted at the start of the round and stood in the center of the ring, going punch-for-punch with each landing some hard blows to the head. With Piper and Mr. T locked up in a clinch, referee Jack Lotz tried to break the men apart. But Piper pushed Lotz to the mat and then bodyslammed T. This move earned Piper a disqualification and Mr. T was awarded the match.

In the other matches: Intercontinental champion Randy Savage pinned George "The Animal" Steele, Magnificent Muraco and Paul Orndorff were both counted out of the ring, and Jake "The Snake" Roberts scored a pin over George Wells. Roberts then wrapped his giant boa constrictor snake around Wells' body.

—Alison Corey □

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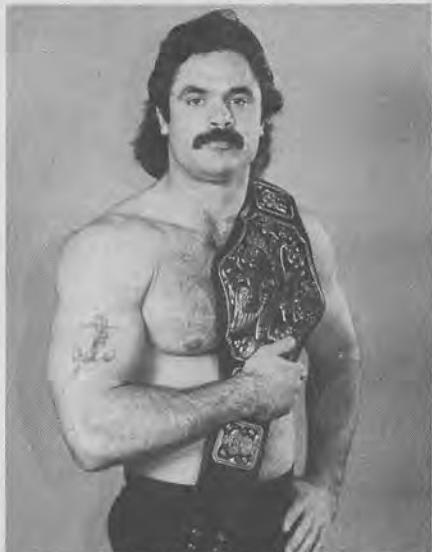
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## INQUIRING REPORTER

(Continued from page 10)

just stabs it in the back. No respect, that's what's wrong with this country."



Rude has long claimed that the World Class officials have shown favoritism toward the Von Erichs. If that is the case, the association is in a position in which it can easily strip him of the title.

*Lucille Johnson, San Diego, CA:* "I think the NWA has the best wrestling in the country. I've seen all of those other associations and they don't compare. I can see why those World Class guys are upset about the disqualification rule. It seems as if their wrestlers are always the ones affected. But the NWA has been around for almost a hundred years and has set the standards in wrestling. World Class is making a big mistake. I can't see how it'll survive on its own."

*Roxanne Knight, Dallas, TX:* "When I heard that World Class was withdrawing from the NWA, I went crazy. I mean, this is one of the greatest things that ever happened to wrestling. For one, it'll force the rulebreakers to change their tactics. Otherwise, they can never become champions. Second, maybe it'll make the NWA, AWA, and WWF think about changing that disqualification rule. That would be good for all of wrestling. And third, it'll give this area the kind of wrestling it deserves. This could change the face of wrestling as we know it."

*Dick Green, Westbury, NY:* "I think that before long, World Class will wish it never made the move. The disqualification rule is the glue that holds wrestling together. Now titles are going to be decided by referees' calls. If the referees are strict, you're going to see titles changing hands every week. What might happen is that the referees, knowing that their decision can change a title, will become too lenient. Eventually, the World Class will go back to the traditional disqualification rule, and they will realize that there was no need to break away from the NWA. By then, though, it will be too late."

*Ralph Williams, Amarillo, TX:* "You better believe it! The NWA is run by a bunch of spineless fairies and it's about time they got their due. No wonder Ric Flair's their champion. He typifies the gutless, brainless wrestlers in that association, if you can call it that. World champion what? I'd like to get into the ring with that guy for a few minutes. He'd have no place to hide. Now, I'm not saying that I like Rick Rude. I mean, the guy could be Adrian Adonis' tag team partner, but in the World Class he'll have to prove how good he is. If he's a champion, he'll prove it." □



The World Class could no longer tolerate a rule that allowed a champion to lose and still walk away with his title belt. If Flair doesn't have anything to lose by fouling Dusty Rhodes, what's to prevent him from taking advantage of the situation?



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## WE ACCUSE

(Continued from page 12)

enjoyed as professional athletes.

Fralic, an offensive tackle for the Atlanta Falcons, was the worst antagonist. The weeks leading up to the battle royal were peppered by his cocky posturing. "The off-season ends after WrestleMania. I'll relax until then, stroll into the ring, breeze through the battle royal, and then I'll start training for a real sport, for football."

Minutes before the match, Fralic stood cheek to cheek (head to shoulders actually) and traded threats with Big John Studd. "Studd," he said, "or Dud, whatever your name is, in five, 10 minutes, I'm gonna teach you what it's all about."

Fralic acquitted himself decently in the ring, thwarting attacks from both Studd and Andre the Giant while dumping Jim Covert and King Tonga from the ring. However, a Studd-Iron Sheik double-team ended the football star's challenge and shut his mouth.

His colleagues fared much worse. Jim Covert, the Chicago Bears all-Pro offensive tackle, was the *second man out*, unceremoniously ejected by Fralic. Covert fumed red faced around the ring in front of his hometown fans, but had no choice but to return to the showers.

Next out of the ring, resembling a chocolate Adrian Adonis rather than the anchor of the fabled Steel Curtain defense, was Ernie Holmes, thrown out by wrestling legend Bruno Sammartino. Bruno, who has been in wrestling for 27 years, put Holmes, who left the gridiron not more than five years ago, to shame.

That makes two of the first three men out of the ring football players.

Harvey Martin, looking not at all like the fierce MVP of Super Bowl XII in his blue and white aerobic tights, was the sixth man over the rope. He was evicted by Pedro Morales, a wrestler at least 10 years his senior.

A trend thus was set early on in the battle royal. The football players were not as invincible as they had pro-

claimed. It wasn't that they were outmanned—Bruno's ouster of Holmes and Martin's ouster by Morales were singular efforts—rather it was a situation where the football players were being outmuscled, outhustled, and outsmarted by athletes they had spent the last month ridiculing. Even the celebrated Perry was shown up. Like he had during the '85 season, The Refrigerator distinguished himself in and out of the ring. Unlike his brethren, Perry refused to take potshots at the wrestlers. His treatment of the battle royal was devout and serious; he publicly aired his concern about injury and wondered if his football career was in jeopardy. In the ring, Perry wrestled with vicious abandon. He hurled Tony Atlas over the rope and leveled Dan Spivey with a crushing shoulderblock.

The Fridge finally met his match against John Studd. In the highlight of the battle royal, he and Studd lined up and collided in midring. The force sent Studd sprawling against the turnbuckle.

They lined up again. This time Studd lowered his shoulder and straightened out the Bear's star. In a quick motion, Studd flung the footballer over his shoulder and out of the ring.

For those keeping score, that left Russ Francis, the San Francisco 49ers' tight end, as the lone representative for the football players. And given his history in the ring (his father Ed was a promoter, Francis himself has wrestled in the off-season for several years), he is not a fair example. And Russ Francis was removed from competition by the Hart Foundation anyway.

Without their shoulder pads and 10 other guys to rely on, the football players—with the exception of Perry—didn't make much of a go at it. Professional wrestling succeeded in enhancing its reputation as the toughest, most grueling and physically demanding sport in the annals of athletics.

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## HALFTIME

(Continued from page 27)

of action for several months. In his comeback match, Andre beat Khan so violently that the Mongolian madman had to be carried out of the ring on a stretcher.

**First runner-up:** Had wrestling fans known what the September 17 match between Dusty Rhodes and Ric Flair would lead to, they might have unanimously named this 1981's Match of the Year. Flair captured his first NWA World title from Rhodes on that night in Kansas City, Missouri, ushering in an era of professional wrestling during which "The Nature Boy" would be setting the pace for much of the rest of the wrestling world.

**Second runner-up:** WWF World champion Bob Backlund feuded with dozens of men after winning the belt in 1978, but few of those feuds were as violent as the one he had with Magnificent Muraco. The two men had a pair of matches in New York's Madison Square Garden, the first of which, an incredible one-hour time-limit draw, captured the nod as second runner-up.

**Third runner-up:** It's almost impossible to believe that Michael Hayes ever had a feud with his Freebird brother Terry Gordy, but he did, and it was a wild one. The three-man combo split up in the middle of the year and waged bloody war with each other—but they managed to reform and in fact went on to capture honors as 1981's Tag Team of the Year!

**1982: Match of the Year:** Three times "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka attempted to capture the WWF title from Bob Backlund in Madison Square Garden, and three times he failed. But on the third try, voted 1982 Match of the Year, Snuka stunned the Garden crowd by performing his famed "superfly leap" from the top of the cage itself. Backlund rolled out of the way, but the fans gave Snuka a rousing cheer of support and admiration for a gutsy run at the title.

**First runner-up:** Bob Backlund was also involved in the first runner-up match as the WWF champion went up against NWA champion Ric Flair in a history-making event that thrilled fans from both federations. The entire course of wrestling history would have been changed had there been a decisive victory. But that was not to happen. After a see-saw battle, both men were counted out of the ring and the match was ruled a draw.

**Second and third runners-up:** Curiously, both these positions were filled by the very same match: Nick Bockwinkel vs. Otto Wanz. The second runner-up spot was the match in which Wanz captured the AWA title from Nick Bockwinkel (August 29 in St. Paul), while the third position was the match in which Bockwinkel regained the belt from Wanz (October 9 in Chicago). The Wanz-Bockwinkel feud was one that clearly captured the imagination of the entire wrestling world, not just the fans in the AWA.

**1983: Match of the Year:** Harley Race had been bragging for months that he was going to do what no other man ever could: capture a seventh NWA World title. Until June 10 in St. Louis, Race had been tied with Lou Thesz for the record. But Flair fell to the legend in a best-of-three-falls match, losing to Race roughly six minutes into the third and deciding fall.

**First runner-up:** March 12 in Greensboro, North Carolina, was dubbed "A Great Night In Greensboro." It certainly was. Rick Steamboat and Jay Youngblood captured the NWA World tag team belts from Sgt. Slaughter and Don Kernodle in a bloody cage match that saw Kernodle suffer one of the deepest head wounds in the sport's history.

**Second runner-up:** Magnificent Muraco's feuds with Pedro Morales are legendary, and a January 22 con-

(Continued on page 62)

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Daniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco,

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Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bra-

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March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass,

Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat.

April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Gra-

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May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS:

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Ericks, Bruno.

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## HALFTIME

(Continued from page 60)

frontation between the two men may have been the best of them all. The Madison Square Garden match marked the beginning of Muraco's second reign as Intercontinental champion.

**Third runner-up:** It was known as "The Last Battle Of Atlanta." Tommy "Wildfire" Rich and "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer had been feuding for months, and it took a steel cage match in Atlanta's Omni to bring the violent and bloody war to an end on October 23. Unlike most steel cage matches, this contest also boasted a steel roof over the ring.

**1984. Match of the Year:** It was a dream come true, all the more sweet for the fact that it took place in front of more than 43,000 fans. Kerry Von Erich, fulfilling a lifelong ambition, pinned Ric Flair's shoulders to the mat on May 6 in Texas Stadium to capture the NWA World title. Kerry's reign lasted only about three weeks, but they were three of the proudest weeks of his entire life!

**First runner-up:** On May 13, another lifelong dream was fulfilled, this time for a man by the name of Rick Martel. The Canadian star stepped into the ring at the St. Paul Civic Center a contender and emerged a champion—AWA World champion—after he pinned Jumbo Tsuruta.

**Second runner-up:** And yet another lifelong dream fulfilled! Hulk Hogan, fresh from a tenure in the AWA, burst upon the WWF wrestling scene late in 1983 and skyrocketed to the number one contender's spot. The WWF champion at the time: The Iron Sheik. On January 23, Hulkamania was born as Hogan needed only 5:40 to capture the WWF belt from the Sheik and usher in a new era in wrestling history.

**Third runner-up:** When the NWA held their first card of wrestling in the New York area in 20 years, they chose the Byrne Meadowlands Arena as the site, and a May 29 battle

(Continued on page 64)



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## HALFTIME

(Continued from page 62)

between Ric Flair and Rick Steamboat as the main event. Many fans had never seen either man in action, but as the two stars battled for nearly 45 minutes, the New York fans learned to respect Flair and Steamboat.

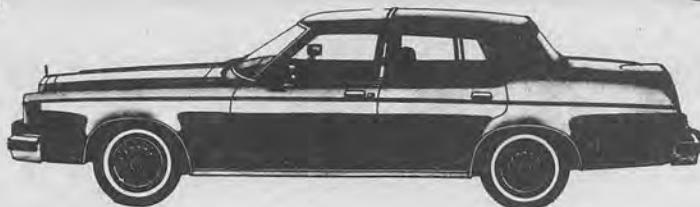
**1985. Match of the Year:** Hulk Hogan and Mr. T vs. Roddy Piper and Paul Orndorff. It was the main event of the March 31 WrestleMania card, and the presence of Mr. T in a wrestling match helped focus the nation's attention on this incredible extravaganza. The result: Piper and Orndorff crossed signals, and Orndorff found himself the victim of a pinfall—and a feud with "The Rowdy Scot."

**First runner-up:** When The Road Warriors first squared off against Ivan and Nikita Koloff on April 18, wrestling fans relished the thought of Nikita engaging in tests of strength against Hawk and Animal, as well as the strategic interplay of Ivan against Paul Ellering. This was the first of what developed into a long series of matches between the two teams—wrestling's own World War III.

**Second runner-up:** The first Great American Bash card on July 6 saw NWA World champion put his title on the line against "Russia's Ambassador Of Destruction" Nikita Koloff. The match went nearly 45 grueling and bloody minutes, with Flair scoring a pinfall. Flair, however, became the victim of a brutal double-team by Nikita and Ivan after the match was over.

**Third runner-up:** It was a scientific extravaganza for the ages. AWA World champion Rick Martel battled former WWF titlist Bob Backlund on February 22 in a contest that will long be remembered as one of the greatest matches in all AWA history. While the match ended inconclusively (a double-countout), few fans went home disappointed as a result of this classic scientific matchup. □

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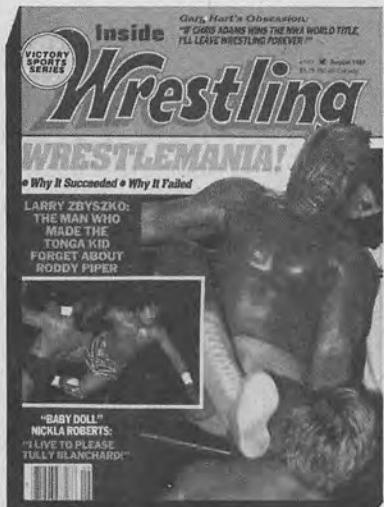
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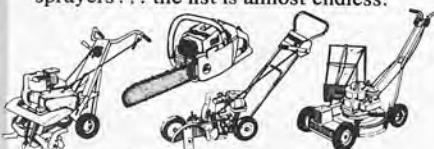


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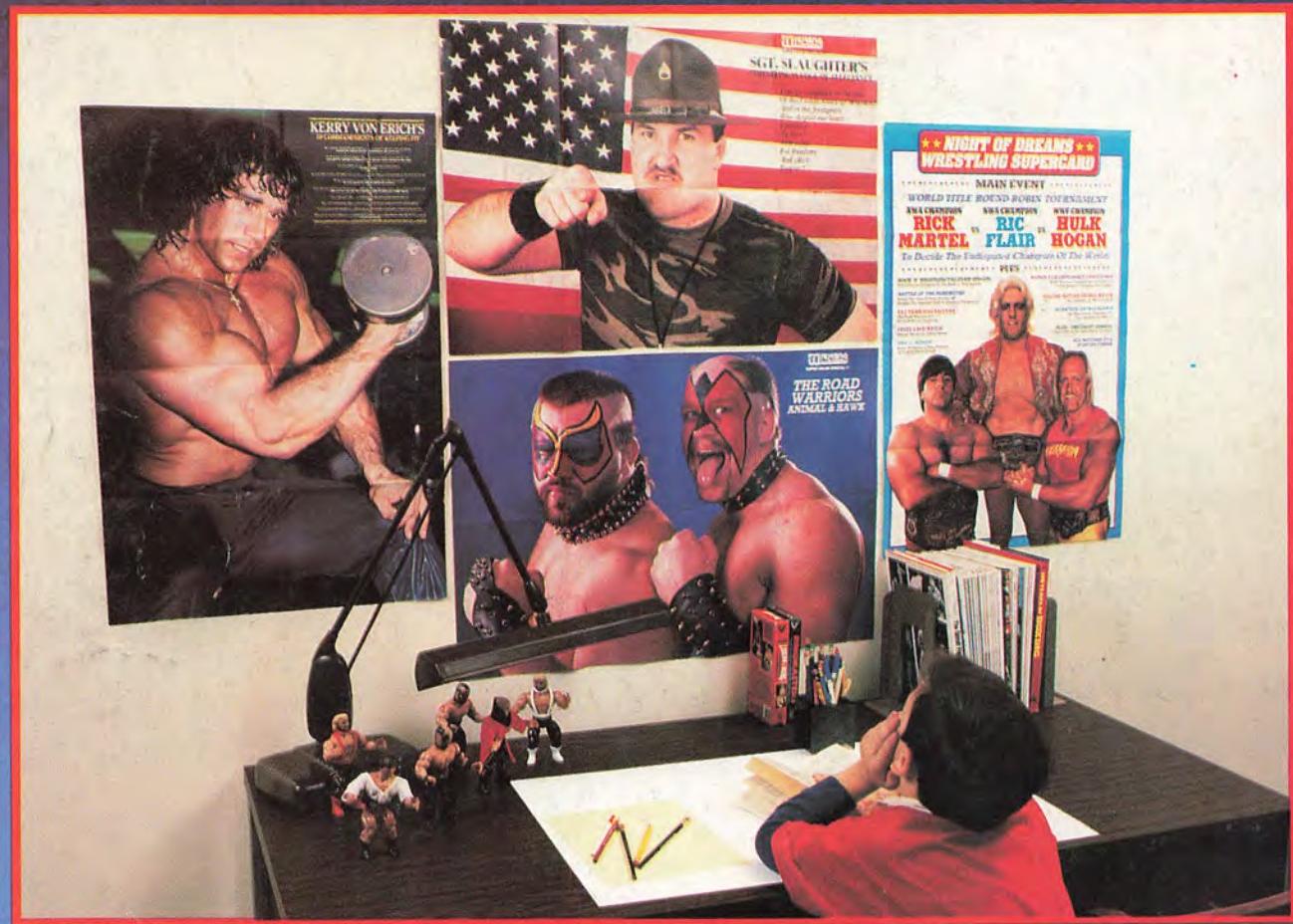
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